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# Basic General Knowledge Book



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## **Disclaimer**

This learning module has been prepared as a learning tool to provide a description of the basic information related to General Knowledge compiled in an interesting format to make the subject easy and interesting especially for the school going kids who think the subject to be boring and exhaustive.

General Knowledge is a fascinating subject, there are so many amazing things to learn and discover. Thankfully you've got a lot of time to research, practice and feeling of various applications of computers in normal day to day life activities in surrounding!

Read on to find more while remembering that as society changes and technology develops so too does our understanding of various topics of General Knowledge and the world around us. What is 'fact' today may be disproved tomorrow.

# Foreword

Welcome to *Basic General Knowledge Book*. This is designed for students studying in middle school through high school.

Over a period of years, I have developed a learning method that I believe to be new and revolutionary in teaching the structure of Basic General Knowledge. Using the interactive capabilities of the computer, this new method provides for the efficient teaching of complex concepts in language and provides for students to interact with the materials and receive immediate feedback of responses. Students learn language concepts and experience the language at the same time. The materials establish a tutorial relationship with the student allowing the student to work at his or her own pace. Each exercise is an instructional sequence and is completely self-correcting with the help of objective questions designed to fulfill this. Pre-tests and final Post-tests are provided as well as a means for teacher monitoring. Essentially, with this new method, the computer has become a powerful teaching and learning tool.

This book may be utilized as an adjunct text within the regular classroom or as a text within alternative educational settings. A student may repeat a volume as often as desired for reinforcement. The object of the book is "learning" and not just completing the material.

I would encourage each student to do his/her best. Don't be discouraged when errors are made. Errors are an important part of learning and an important part of life. Remember that each topic is an instructional sequence and not a test. Repeat the topics as many times as you like.

# Introduction

## Why Basic General Knowledge Book?

The book is an instructional series for language arts classes, alternative education settings, home schooling, individual study, and competitive examinations where General Knowledge is a part of knowledge tests. The series provides step-by-step instruction directed toward student performance goals. The series includes various topics that represent an equivalent of 300 hours of classroom instruction. It is recommended that students have reading skills at the sixth std. or higher.

It incorporates 6-12 content standards found in most states and districts of India

The series can be further described as follows:

- Instruction is system designed based on student performance goals
- Instruction is designed for self-paced, individualized, step-by-step learning
- Pretest and Posttests are provided for each unit
- Materials are formatted for easy access and use
- Students learn concepts and experience the language at the same time

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## Abbreviations

<p><b>A</b></p> <p><b>ABM:</b> Anti Ballistic Missiles</p> <p><b>ABVP:</b> Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad</p> <p><b>AC:</b> Alternating Current; Ashoka Chakra</p> <p><b>ACU:</b> Asian Currency Union</p> <p><b>AD:</b> anno Domini; in the year of Lord Christ</p> <p><b>ADB:</b> Asian Development Bank</p> <p><b>ADC:</b> Aide-de-Camp; Access Deficit Charge</p> <p><b>ADF:</b> Asian Development Fund</p> <p><b>ADS:</b> Air Defence Ship</p> <p><b>AJT:</b> Advanced Jet Trainer</p> <p><b>AG:</b> Accountant General; Adjutant General</p> <p><b>AI:</b> Air India</p> <p><b>AIDS:</b> Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome</p> <p><b>AIIMS:</b> All India Institute of Medical Sciences</p> <p><b>AIR:</b> All India Radio; Annual Information Report</p> <p><b>AITUC:</b> All India Trade Union Congress</p> <p><b>AJT:</b> Advanced Jet Trainer</p> <p><b>ALH:</b> Advanced Light Helicopter</p> <p><b>AM:</b> ante meridiem; before noon</p> <p><b>AMC:</b> Army Medical Corps; Asset Management Companies</p> <p><b>AME:</b> Associate Member of the Institute of Engineers</p> <p><b>APC:</b> Agricultural Prices Commission</p> <p><b>APEC:</b> Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation</p> <p><b>APPLE:</b> Ariane Passenger Payload Experiment</p> <p><b>APPU:</b> Asian Pacific Postal Union</p> <p><b>ARC:</b> Asset Reconstruction Company</p> <p><b>ARDR:</b> Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief</p> <p><b>ASAT:</b> Anti-Satellite weapon</p> <p><b>ASC:</b> Army Service Corps</p> <p><b>ASCI:</b> Advanced Strategic Computing Initiative</p> <p><b>ASCI:</b> American Standard Code for Information</p> <p><b>ASEAN:</b> Association of South-East Asian Nations</p> <p><b>ASEM:</b> Asia-Europe Meeting</p> <p><b>ASIMO:</b> Advanced Step in Innovative Mobility</p> <p><b>ASLV:</b> Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle</p> <p><b>ASMA:</b> Antarctica Specially Managed Area</p> <p><b>ASSOCHAM:</b> Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry</p> <p><b>ATA:</b> Air Time Authority; Allen Telescope Array</p> <p><b>ATC:</b> Air Traffic Controller</p> <p><b>ATM:</b> Automatic Teller Machine</p> <p><b>ATR:</b> Action Taken Report</p> <p><b>ATV:</b> Automatic Transfer Vehicle</p> <p><b>AUM:</b> Assets Under Management</p> <p><b>AVC:</b> Army Veterinary Corps</p> <p><b>AVM:</b> Additional Volatility Margin</p>	<p><b>J, K, L</b></p> <p><b>JCO:</b> Junior Commissioned Officer</p> <p><b>JNNURM:</b> Jawahar Lal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission</p> <p><b>JPC:</b> Joint Parliamentary Committee</p> <p><b>JPEG:</b> Joint Photographic Experts Group</p> <p><b>JWG:</b> Joint Working Group</p> <p><b>KG:</b> Kindergarten</p> <p><b>Kg:</b> Kilogramme</p> <p><b>KPO:</b> Knowledge Process Outsourcing</p> <p><b>LAC:</b> Line of Actual Control</p> <p><b>LCA:</b> Light Combat Aircraft</p> <p><b>LDC:</b> Least Developed Countries</p> <p><b>LHC:</b> Large Hadron Collider</p> <p><b>LIC:</b> Life Insurance Corporation (of India)</p> <p><b>LLP:</b> Limited Liability Partnership</p> <p><b>LOAC:</b> Line of Actual Control</p> <p><b>LTA:</b> Light Transport Aircraft</p> <p><b>LTTE:</b> Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam</p> <p><b>M</b></p> <p><b>MAT:</b> Minimum Alternative Tax</p> <p><b>MER:</b> Mars Exploration Rover</p> <p><b>MBBS:</b> Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery</p> <p><b>MCF:</b> Master Control Facility</p> <p><b>MEP:</b> Minimum Export Price</p> <p><b>MES:</b> Military Engineering Service</p> <p><b>METSAT:</b> Meteorological Satellite</p> <p><b>MFA:</b> Multi-Fibre Agreement</p> <p><b>MFN:</b> Most Favoured Nation</p> <p><b>MIP:</b> Moon Impact Probe</p> <p><b>MMS:</b> Multimedia Messaging Service</p> <p><b>MMTC:</b> Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India</p> <p><b>MNC:</b> Multi-national Corporation</p> <p><b>MNIC:</b> Multi-purpose National Identity Card</p> <p><b>MODEM:</b> Modulator-Demodulator</p> <p><b>MRI:</b> Magnetic Resonance Imaging</p> <p><b>MRTPC:</b> Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission</p> <p><b>MRTS:</b> Mass Rapid Transit System</p> <p><b>MSA:</b> Maritime Safety Agency</p> <p><b>MSCF:</b> Maritime Security Cooperation Framework</p> <p><b>Mss:</b> Manuscript</p> <p><b>MTCR:</b> Missile Technology Control Regime</p> <p><b>MTO:</b> Multilateral Trade Organisation</p> <p><b>MVC:</b> Maha Vir Chakra</p> <p><b>MUNO:</b> Maha Vir Chakra</p>
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**AWACS:** Airborne Warning and Control System

## **B**

**BARC:** Bhabha Atomic Research Centre

**BBC:** British Broadcasting Corporation

**BC:** Before Christ; Board of Control; British Columbia; Battery Commander

**BCG:** Bacillus Calmette Guerin—Anti-Tuberculosis Vaccine

**BICP:** Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices

**BIFR:** Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction

**BIOS:** Basic Input Output System

**BKU:** Bharatiya Kisan Union

**BMD:** Ballistic Missile Defence System

**BOLT:** BSE On-Line Trading (System)

**BOSS:** Bharat Operating System Solutions

**BPO:** Business Process Outsourcing

**BPR:** Bottom Pressure Records

**BRO:** Border Road Organisation

**BSE:** Bombay Stock Exchange

**BSF:** Border Security Force

**BSNL:** Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd

## **C**

**CA:** Chartered Accountant

**CABE:** Central Advisory Board of Education

**C & AG:** Comptroller & Auditor General

**CAIR:** Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics

**CAPART:** Council for People's Action and Advancement of Rural Technology

**CAPES:** Computer-Aided Paperless Examination System

**CAS:** Chief of Army Staff; Chief of Air Staff; Conditional Access System

**CB:** Citizen Band (Radio)

**CBI:** Central Bureau of Investigation

**CBFC:** Central Board of Film Certification

**CCPA:** Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs

**CD:** Conference on Disarmament

**C-DAC:** The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing

**CDMA:** Code Division Multiple Access

**CECA:** Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement

**CERN:** European Organisation for Nuclear Research (Pronounced CERN in French)

**CFC:** Chlorofluoro Carbon

**CFS:** Container Freight Station

## **N**

**NAA:** National Airport Authority

**NABARD:** National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development. (It helps rural development by providing re-finance facility).

**NACIL:** National Aviation Company of India Ltd

**NADA:** National Anti-Doping Agency

**NAEP:** National Adult Education Programme

**NAFTA:** North America Free Trade Agreement

**NAG:** National Air Guard

**NAM:** Non-aligned Movement

**NAMA:** Non-Agriculture Market Access

**NASA:** National Aeronautics and Space Administration (of the U.S.A.)

**NASDAQ:** National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation

**NATA:** Natural Aptitude Test for Architecture

**NATO:** North Atlantic Treaty Organisation

**NAV:** Net Asset Value

**NB:** Nota bene; note well, or take notice

**NCA:** Nuclear Command Authority

**NCC:** National Cadet Corps

**NCEP:** National Committee on Environmental Planning

**NCERT:** National Council of Education Research and Training

**NCR:** National Capital Region

**NDA:** National Defence Academy; National Democratic Alliance

**NDNC:** National Do Not Call (Registry)

**NDPS:** Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances

**NDRF:** National Disaster Response Force

**NDTL:** National Dope Testing Laboratory

**NeGP:** National e-governance Plan

**NEDB:** North-Eastern Development Bank

**NEP:** National Education Policy

**NEPA:** National Environment Protection Authority

**NFO:** New Fund Offers

**NHDP:** National Highways Development Project

**NHRC:** National Human Rights Commission

**NIC:** National Integration Council

**NIFT:** National Institute of Fashion Technology

**NIO:** National Institute of Oceanography

**NIS:** National Institute of Sports

**NIT:** National Institute of Technology

**NLMA:** National Literacy Mission Authority

**NMD:** Nuclear Missile Defence

**NMDC:** National Mineral Development Corporation

**NPL:** National Physical Laboratory

<p><b>CHOGM:</b> Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting</p> <p><b>CIA:</b> Central Intelligence Agency (of U.S.A.)</p> <p><b>CIBIL:</b> Credit Information Bureau (India) Ltd</p> <p><b>CIC:</b> Chief Information Commissioner</p> <p><b>CID:</b> Criminal Investigation Department</p> <p><b>C-in-C:</b> Commander-in-Chief</p> <p><b>cif:</b> cost, insurance and freight</p> <p><b>CIS:</b> Commonwealth of Independent States</p> <p><b>CISF:</b> Central Industrial Security Force</p> <p><b>CITES:</b> Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species</p> <p><b>CITU:</b> Centre of Indian Trade Unions</p> <p><b>CLASS:</b> Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools</p> <p><b>CLAWS:</b> Centre for Land Warfare Studies</p> <p><b>CM:</b> Command Module; Chief Minister</p> <p><b>CMP:</b> Common Minimum Programme</p> <p><b>CNG:</b> Compressed Natural Gas</p> <p><b>CNN:</b> Cable News Network</p> <p><b>CNS:</b> Chief of the Naval Staff</p> <p><b>CO:</b> Commanding Officer</p> <p><b>COD:</b> Central Ordnance Depot; Cash on Delivery</p> <p><b>CPCB:</b> Central Pollution Control Board</p> <p><b>CPI:</b> Communist Party of India</p> <p><b>CPI(M):</b> Communist Party of India (Marxists)</p> <p><b>CPU:</b> Central Processing Unit</p> <p><b>CR:</b> Central Railway</p> <p><b>CRAC:</b> Cyber Regulation Advisory Council</p> <p><b>CRDi:</b> Common Rail Direct injection</p> <p><b>CRISIL:</b> Credit Rating Information Services of India Limited</p> <p><b>CRM:</b> Customer Relationship Management</p> <p><b>CRR:</b> Cash Reserve Ratio</p> <p><b>CRPF:</b> Central Reserve Police Force</p> <p><b>CSIR:</b> Council of Scientific and Industrial Research</p> <p><b>CTBT:</b> Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty</p> <p><b>CTT:</b> Commodities Transaction Tax</p> <p><b>CVRDE:</b> Combat Vehicles Research and Development Establishment</p> <p><b>D</b></p> <p><b>DA:</b> Dearness Allowance; Daily Allowance</p> <p><b>DAVP:</b> Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity</p> <p><b>DC:</b> Deputy Commissioner; Direct Current in Electricity</p> <p><b>DDT:</b> Dichloro-Diphenyl Trichloro-ethane (disinfectant)</p> <p><b>DIN:</b> Director Information Number</p>	<p><b>NPR:</b> National Population Register</p> <p><b>NPT:</b> (Nuclear) Non-Proliferation Treaty</p> <p><b>NRBI:</b> National Rural Bank of India</p> <p><b>NREGA:</b> National Rural Employment Guarantee Act</p> <p><b>NREP:</b> National Rural Employment Programme</p> <p><b>NRF:</b> National Renewal Fund</p> <p><b>NRI:</b> Non-Resident Indian</p> <p><b>NRN:</b> National Reproduction Rate</p> <p><b>NRSA:</b> National Remote Sensing Agency</p> <p><b>NSA:</b> National Security Act</p> <p><b>NSC:</b> National Service Corps; National Security Council</p> <p><b>NSDL:</b> National Securities Depository Limited</p> <p><b>NSE:</b> National Stock Exchange</p> <p><b>NSR:</b> National Skills Registry</p> <p><b>NTPC:</b> National Thermal Power Corporation</p> <p><b>NWDA:</b> National Water Development Agency</p> <p><b>NWRC:</b> National Water Resources Council</p> <p><b>O</b></p> <p><b>OAS:</b> Organisation of American States</p> <p><b>OAU:</b> Organisation of African Unity</p> <p><b>OBC:</b> Other Backward Communities</p> <p><b>OBU:</b> Offshore Banking Unit</p> <p><b>ODA:</b> Official Development Assistance</p> <p><b>ODF:</b> Open Document Format</p> <p><b>ODS:</b> Ozone Depletion Substances</p> <p><b>OECD:</b> Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development</p> <p><b>OGL:</b> Open General Licence</p> <p><b>OIC:</b> Organisation of Islamic Countries</p> <p><b>OIGS:</b> On India Government Service</p> <p><b>OIL:</b> Oil India Limited</p> <p><b>OM:</b> Order of Merit</p> <p><b>ONGC:</b> Oil and Natural Gas Commission</p> <p><b>OPEC:</b> Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries</p> <p><b>OSCE:</b> Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe</p> <p><b>OSD:</b> Officer on Special Duty</p> <p><b>OXML:</b> Open Extended Marking Language</p> <p><b>P</b></p> <p><b>PAC:</b> Political Affairs Committee; Public Accounts Committee</p> <p><b>PACER:</b> Programme for Acceleration of Commercial Energy Research</p> <p><b>PAN:</b> Permanent Account Number (of Income-Tax)</p> <p><b>PATA:</b> Pacific-Asia Travel Association</p> <p><b>PCS:</b> Public Civil Service; Punjab Civil Service</p>
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<p><b>DM:</b> District Magistrate; Deputy Minister  <b>DMIC:</b> Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor  <b>DMK:</b> Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (a regional political party of Tamil Nadu)  <b>DNA:</b> de-oxyribonucleic acid  <b>DO:</b> Demi-official (letter)  <b>DOD:</b> Department of Ocean Development  <b>DPEP:</b> District Primary Education Programme  <b>DPI:</b> Director of Public Instruction  <b>DRAM:</b> Dynamic Random Access Memory  <b>DRDO:</b> Defence Research and Development Organisation  <b>DST:</b> Daylight Saving Time  <b>DRES:</b> Department of Renewable Energy Sources  <b>DTH:</b> Direct to Home (broadcasting)</p> <p><b>E</b></p> <p><b>ECG:</b> Electro Cardio-gram  <b>ECS:</b> Electronic Clearing Service  <b>ECT:</b> Electro-convulsant Therapy (electric shock treatment)  <b>EDUSAT:</b> Education Satellite  <b>EEG:</b> Electro-encephalography  <b>EET:</b> Exempt Exempt Taxation  <b>EFA:</b> Education for All  <b>EFF:</b> Extended Fund Facility  <b>e.g.:</b> exempli gratia; for example  <b>EHTP:</b> Electronic Hardware Technology Parks  <b>ELISA:</b> Enzyme Linked Immuno Solvent Assay (used for testing AIDS)  <b>EMI:</b> Equated Monthly Instalment  <b>EMS:</b> European Monetary System  <b>EMU:</b> Electric-Multiple Unit; Extra-vehicular Mobility Unit; (European) Economic and Monetary Union  <b>E &amp; OE:</b> Errors and Omissions Excepted  <b>EPROM:</b> Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory  <b>ER:</b> Eastern Railway  <b>ERM:</b> Exchange Rate Mechanism  <b>ERNET:</b> Educational and Research Network  <b>ESA:</b> European Space Agency  <b>ESCAP:</b> Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific  <b>ESMA:</b> Essential Services Maintenance Act  <b>ESOP:</b> Employee Stock Option Programme  <b>etc.:</b> et cetera (and other things)  <b>EU:</b> European Union  <b>EVM:</b> Electronic Voting Machine</p>	<p><b>PIB:</b> Press Information Bureau  <b>Pin Code:</b> Postal Index Number Code  <b>PIO:</b> Persons of Indian Origin  <b>PLF:</b> Plant Load Factor  <b>PM:</b> Post Meridiem; after-noon; also Postmaster; Prime Minister; post-mortem (after death)  <b>PMG:</b> Postmaster General  <b>PN:</b> Participatory Note  <b>PO:</b> Post Office; Postal Order  <b>POPs:</b> Persistent Organic Pollutants; Point of Purchase  <b>POTA:</b> Prevention of Terrorism Act  <b>POW:</b> Prisoner of War  <b>PP:</b> Public Prosecutor; Particular Person  <b>PRO:</b> Public Relations Officer  <b>PS:</b> Post Scriptum; Post Script; written after  <b>PSC:</b> Public Service Commission  <b>PSE:</b> Public Sector Enterprises  <b>PSLV:</b> Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle  <b>PTA:</b> Preferential Trade Area  <b>PTI:</b> Press Trust of India  <b>PTO:</b> Please Turn Over; Privilege Ticket Order  <b>PUFA:</b> Poly Unsaturated Fatty Acids  <b>PVC:</b> Param Vir Chakra  <b>PVSM:</b> Param Vishisht Sewa Medal  <b>PWD:</b> Public Works Department</p> <p><b>Q, R</b></p> <p><b>QMG:</b> Quarter Master General  <b>QR:</b> Quantitative Restriction  <b>RAF:</b> Rapid Action Force  <b>RAM:</b> Random Access Memory  <b>RBI:</b> Reserve Bank of India  <b>RCC:</b> Reinforced Concrete Cement  <b>RDF:</b> Rapid Development Force  <b>RDS:</b> Radio Data Servicing  <b>RDSS:</b> Radio Determination Satellite Service  <b>REACH:</b> Rehabilitate, Educate and Support Street Children  <b>RLO:</b> Returned Letter Office  <b>RLV:</b> Reusable Launch Vehicle  <b>RPM:</b> Revolution Per Minute  <b>RPO:</b> Recruitment Process Outsourcing; Regional Passport Officer  <b>RRB:</b> Regional Rural Bank  <b>RRPI:</b> Rural Retail Price Index  <b>RSS:</b> Rashtriya Swyamsevak Sangh  <b>RSVP:</b> Repondez s'il vous plait (Fr.) reply, if you please  <b>RTGS:</b> Real Time Gross Settlement System</p>
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**F**

**FAO:** Food and Agriculture Organisation  
**FBI:** Federal Bureau of Investigation (of the U.S.A.)  
**FCNR:** Foreign Currency (non-resident) Accounts Scheme  
**FDR:** Flight Data Recorder; Fixed Deposit Receipt  
**FEMA:** Foreign Exchange Management Act  
**FERA:** Foreign Exchange Regulations Act  
**FICCI:** Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry  
**FII:** Foreign Institutional Investors  
**FIPB:** Foreign Investment Promotion Board (of India)  
**FLAG:** Fibre Optic Link Around the Globe  
**FM:** Field Marshal; Frequency Modulated  
**FPSB:** Financial Planning Standards Boards (India)  
**FRBM:** Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management  
**FSSA:** Food Safety and Standards Authority (of India)  
**FTA:** Free Trade Area  
**FTP:** File Transfer Protocol

**G**

**GAGAN:** GPS-aided Geo-augmented Navigation  
**GAIL:** Gas Authority of India Limited  
**GAIN:** Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition  
**GATS:** General Agreement on Trade in Services  
**GATT:** General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade  
**GCA:** General Currency Area  
**GCC:** Gulf Cooperation Council  
**GCM:** Greatest Common Measure  
**GEF:** Global Environment Fund  
**GHQ:** General Headquarters  
**GIC:** General Insurance Corporation  
**GIST:** Graphics and Intelligence-based Script Technology  
**GMPS:** Global Mobile Personal Communications System  
**GMRT:** Giant Meterwave Radio Telescope  
**GMT:** Greenwich Mean Time  
**GNSS:** Global Navigation Satellite System  
**GNP:** Gross National Product  
**GOC:** General Officer Commanding  
**GPO:** General Post Office  
**GPRS:** General Packet Radio System  
**GPS:** Global Positioning System  
**GSLV:** Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle  
**GSP:** Generalised Special Preferences

**S**

**SAARC:** South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation  
**SAFTA:** South Asian Free Trade Area  
**SAIL:** Steel Authority of India Limited  
**SAPTA:** SAARC Preferential Trading Agreement  
**SARS:** Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome  
**SATNAV:** Satellite Navigation (Initiative)  
**SAVE:** SAARC Audio Visual Exchange  
**SC:** Security Council; Supreme Court; Scheduled Caste  
**SCI:** Shipping Corporation of India  
**SCO:** Shanghai Cooperation Organisation  
**SCOPE:** Standing Conference on Public Enterprises  
**SDO:** Sub-Divisional Officer  
**SDR:** Special Drawing Rights (created by the World Bank)  
**SEBI:** Securities and Exchange Board of India  
**SFC:** Strategic Forces Command  
**SGPC:** Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee  
**SIDBI:** Small Industries Development Bank of India  
**SIT:** Special Investigation Team  
**SITE:** Satellite Instructional Television Experiment  
**SLR:** Statutory Liquidity Ratio  
**SMS:** Short Messaging Service; Subscriber Management System  
**SOS:** Save Our Souls—distress signal  
**SPG:** Special Protection Group  
**SPIN:** Software Process Improvement Networks  
**SPV:** Solar Photo Voltaic  
**SQUID:** Super-conducting Quantum Interference Device  
**SRE:** Space Capsule Recovery Experiment  
**SRV:** Submarine Rescue Vessel  
**SSN:** Social Security Number  
**STARS:** Satellite Tracking and Ranging Station  
**START:** Strategic Arms Reduction Talks  
**STEP:** Science and Technology Entrepreneurship Park  
**STT:** Securities Transaction Tax  
**SWAN:** State-wide Area Network  
**SWIFT:** Society for Worldwide Financial Telecommunications

**T**

**TA:** Travelling Allowance; Territorial Army  
**TAAI:** Travel Agents Association of India  
**TACDE:** Tactics and Air Combat Development Establishment

<p><b>GST:</b> Goods and Service Tax  <b>GSTP:</b> Global System of Trade Preferences</p> <p><b>H</b></p> <p><b>HAWS:</b> High Altitude Warfare School  <b>HCF:</b> Highest Common Factor  <b>HDI:</b> Human Development Index  <b>HDTV:</b> High Definition Television  <b>HE:</b> His (or Her) Excellency; His (or Her) Eminence; High Explosive; Horizontal Equivalent  <b>HITS:</b> Headend In The Sky  <b>HMMWV:</b> High Mobility Multipurpose-Wheeled Vehicle  <b>HMS:</b> Hybrid Mail Service  <b>HP:</b> Himachal Pradesh; Horizontal Plane; Horse Power  <b>HTML:</b> Hyper Text Markup Language  <b>HTTP:</b> Hypertext Transfer Protocol  <b>HUDCO:</b> Housing and Urban Development Corporation  <b>HVDC:</b> High Voltage Direct Current</p> <p><b>I</b></p> <p><b>IAAI:</b> International Airport Authority of India  <b>IAAS:</b> Indian Audit and Accounts Service  <b>IADF:</b> International Agricultural Development Fund  <b>IAEA:</b> International Atomic Energy Agency  <b>IAF:</b> Indian Air Force  <b>IAMC:</b> Indian Army Medical Corps  <b>IAS:</b> Indian Administrative Service  <b>IATA:</b> International Air Transport Association  <b>IATT:</b> Inland Air Travel Tax  <b>IBRD:</b> International Bank for Reconstruction and Development  <b>IBEX:</b> Interstellar Boundary Explorer Mission  <b>ICANN:</b> Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers  <b>ICAO:</b> International Civil Aviation Organisation  <b>ICAR:</b> Indian Council of Agricultural Research  <b>ICCR:</b> Indian Council of Cultural Relations  <b>ICCW:</b> Indian Council for Child Welfare  <b>ICDS:</b> Integrated Child Development Service  <b>ICJ:</b> International Court of Justice (with Headquarters at the Hague)  <b>ICL:</b> Indian Cricket League  <b>ICMR:</b> Indian Council of Medical Research  <b>ICPA:</b> Indian Cricket Players' Association  <b>ICRC:</b> International Committee of the Red Cross  <b>IDA:</b> International Development Association</p>	<p><b>TADA:</b> Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act  <b>TAPS:</b> Tarapur Atomic Power Station  <b>TB:</b> Tuberculosis  <b>TDC:</b> Transport Development Council  <b>TDS:</b> Tax Deduction at Source  <b>TDSAT:</b> Telecom Dispute Settlement Appellate Tribunal  <b>TERLS:</b> Thumba Equatorial Rocket Launching Station  <b>TIFR:</b> Tata Institute of Fundamental Research  <b>TIN:</b> Tax Information Network  <b>TINXSYS:</b> Tax Information Exchange System  <b>TISCO:</b> Tata Iron and Steel Company  <b>TMC:</b> Terrain Mapping Camera  <b>TMO:</b> Telegraphic Money Order  <b>TNT:</b> Tri-nitro-toluene (high explosive)  <b>TPP:</b> 20-Point Programme  <b>TRAI:</b> Telecom Regulatory Authority of India  <b>TRIMs:</b> Trade Related Investment Measures  <b>TRIPS:</b> Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights  <b>TRP:</b> Television Rating Points; Tax Return Preparer  <b>TRYSEM:</b> Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment  <b>TTE:</b> Travelling Ticket Examiner  <b>TTF:</b> Tourism Task Force</p> <p><b>U</b></p> <p><b>UAE:</b> United Arab Emirates  <b>UAV:</b> Unmanned Aerial Vehicle  <b>UF:</b> United Front  <b>UFO:</b> Unidentified Flying Object  <b>UGC:</b> University Grants Commission  <b>ULFA:</b> United Liberation Front of Assam  <b>UN:</b> United Nations  <b>UNCTAD:</b> United Nations Conference on Trade and Development  <b>UNDP:</b> United Nations Development Programme  <b>UNEF:</b> United Nations Emergency Force  <b>UNEP:</b> United Nations Environment Programme  <b>UNESCO:</b> United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation  <b>UNFPO:</b> United Nations Fund for Population Activities  <b>UNHCR:</b> United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  <b>UNHRC:</b> United Nations Human Rights Commission  <b>UNI:</b> United News of India  <b>UNICEF:</b> United Nations International Children's</p>
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<p><b>IDBI:</b> Industrial Development Bank of India  <b>IDS:</b> Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis  <b>i.e.:</b> id est; that is  <b>IEA:</b> International Energy Agency  <b>IES:</b> Indian Economic Service  <b>IEX:</b> Indian Energy Exchange  <b>IFRS:</b> International Financial Reporting Standard  <b>IFS:</b> Indian Foreign Service; Indian Forest Service  <b>IFTU:</b> International Federation of Trade Unions  <b>IFWJ:</b> Indian Federation of Working Journalists  <b>IGNOU:</b> Indira Gandhi National Open University  <b>IIPA:</b> Indian Institute of Public Administration  <b>IISS:</b> International Institute of Strategic Studies  <b>IIT:</b> Indian Institutes of Technology  <b>ILO:</b> International Labour Organisation  <b>IMA:</b> Indian Military Academy  <b>IMET:</b> International Military Education Training Programme  <b>IMF:</b> International Monetary Fund  <b>IMO:</b> International Maritime Organisation  <b>IN:</b> Indian Navy; Intelligent Network  <b>INA:</b> Indian National Army  <b>INK:</b> International Newspaper Kiosks  <b>INMARSAT:</b> International Maritime Satellite Organisation  <b>INMAS:</b> Institute of Nuclear Medicines and Allied Sciences  <b>INS:</b> Indian Naval Ship; Indian Newspaper Society  <b>INSAS:</b> Indian Small Arms System  <b>INSAT:</b> Indian National Satellite  <b>INTERPOL:</b> International Police Organisation  <b>INTUC:</b> Indian National Trade Union Congress  <b>IOC:</b> International Olympic Committee  <b>IP:</b> Indian Police  <b>IPC:</b> Indian Penal Code  <b>IPCC:</b> Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change  <b>IPEC:</b> International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour  <b>IPR:</b> Intellectual Property Right  <b>IPS:</b> Indian Police Service; Indian Postal Service  <b>IPTV:</b> Internet Protocol Television  <b>IPU:</b> Inter-Parliamentary Union  <b>IQ:</b> Intelligence Quotient  <b>IR:</b> Infra-red  <b>IRA:</b> Insurance Regulatory Authority  <b>IRBM:</b> Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile  <b>IREP:</b> Integrated Rural Energy Planning  <b>IRS:</b> Indian Remote Sensing Satellite; Indian Revenue Service  <b>ISAF:</b> International Stabilization and Assistance</p>	<p>(Emergency) Fund  <b>UNIDO:</b> United Nations Industrial Development Organisation  <b>UNRRA:</b> United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration  <b>UNTAC:</b> United Nations Transitional Authority for Cambodia  <b>UPA:</b> United Progressive Alliance  <b>UPSC:</b> Union Public Service Commission  <b>UPTN:</b> Universal Personal Telephone Number  <b>USA:</b> United States of America  <b>USIS:</b> United States Information Service</p> <p><b>V</b></p> <p><b>VAT:</b> Value-added Tax  <b>VC:</b> Vice-Chancellor; Vice Counsel; Victoria Cross; Vir Chakra  <b>VDIS:</b> Voluntary Disclosure of Income Scheme  <b>VHRR:</b> Very High Resolution Radiometer  <b>VIP:</b> Very Important Person  <b>VLSI:</b> Very Large Scale Integration  <b>VOIP:</b> Voice Over Internet Protocol  <b>VPN:</b> Virtual Private Network  <b>VPP:</b> Value Payable Post  <b>VRS:</b> Voluntary Retirement Scheme  <b>VSAT:</b> Very Small Aperture Terminals</p> <p><b>W</b></p> <p><b>WADA:</b> World Anti-Doping Agency  <b>WAP:</b> Wireless Application Protocol  <b>WAVE:</b> Wireless Access for Virtual Enterprise  <b>WDF:</b> Wasteland Development Force  <b>WEF:</b> World Economic Forum  <b>WFP:</b> World Food Programme  <b>WFTU:</b> World Federation of Trade Unions  <b>WGIG:</b> Working Group on Internet Governance  <b>WIPO:</b> World Intellectual Property Organisation  <b>WLL:</b> Wireless in Local Loop  <b>WMD:</b> Weapons of Mass Destruction  <b>WR:</b> Western Railway  <b>WTO:</b> World Trade Organisation (previously called GATT); also World Tourism Organisation</p> <p><b>X, Y, Z</b></p> <p><b>XML:</b> eXtensible Markup Language  <b>YMCA:</b> Young Men's Christian Association  <b>YWCA:</b> Young Women's Christian Association</p>
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<p>Force (in Afghanistan)</p> <p><b>ISC:</b> Inter-State Council</p> <p><b>ISCS:</b> Integrated Smart Card System</p> <p><b>ISD:</b> International Subscriber Dialed (telephone)</p> <p><b>ISH:</b> Information Super Highway</p> <p><b>ISKCON:</b> International Society for Krishna Consciousness</p> <p><b>ISO:</b> International Standardisation Organisation</p> <p><b>ISP:</b> Internet Service Provider</p> <p><b>ISRO:</b> Indian Space Research Organisation</p> <p><b>ISS:</b> International Space Station</p> <p><b>IST:</b> Indian Standard Time</p> <p><b>ISTRAC:</b> ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network</p> <p><b>ITDC:</b> Indian Tourism Development Corporation</p> <p><b>ITO:</b> International Trade Organisation; Income-tax Officer</p> <p><b>ITU:</b> International Tele-communication Union</p> <p><b>IUC:</b> Interconnect User Charge</p>		
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## Amazing True Facts

1. In the weightlessness of space a frozen pea will explode if it comes in contact with Pepsi.
2. The increased electricity used by modern appliances is causing a shift in the Earth's magnetic field. By the year 2327, the North Pole will be located in mid-Kansas, while the South Pole will be just off the coast of East Africa.
3. The idea for "tribbles" in "Star Trek" came from gerbils, since some gerbils are actually born pregnant.
4. Male rhesus monkeys often hang from tree branches by their amazing prehensile penises.
5. Johnny Plessey batted .331 for the Cleveland Spiders in 1891, even though he spent the entire season batting with a rolled-up, lacquered copy of the Toledo Post-Dispatch.
6. Smearing a small amount of dog feces on an insect bite will relieve the itching and swelling.
7. The Boeing 747 is capable of flying upside-down if it weren't for the fact that the wings would shear off when trying to roll it over.
8. The trucking company Elvis Presley worked at as a young man was owned by Frank Sinatra.
9. The only golf course on the island of Tonga has 15 holes, and there's no penalty if a monkey steals your golf ball.
10. Legislation passed during WWI making it illegal to say "gesundheit" to a sneezer was never repealed.
11. Manatees possess vocal chords which give them the ability to speak like humans, but don't do so because they have no ears with which to hear the [sound](#).
12. SCUBA divers cannot pass gas at depths of 33 feet or below.
13. Catfish are the only animals that naturally have an ODD number of whiskers.
14. Replying more than 100 times to the same piece of spam e-mail will overwhelm the sender's system and interfere with their ability to send any more spam.
15. Polar bears can eat as many as 86 penguins in a single sitting.
16. The first McDonald's restaurant opened for business in 1952 in Edinburgh, Scotland, and featured the McHaggis sandwich.
17. The Air Force's F-117 fighter uses aerodynamics discovered during research into how bumblebees fly.
18. You can get blood from a stone, but only if contains at least 17 percent bauxite.
19. Silly Putty was "discovered" as the residue left behind after the first latex condoms were produced. It's not widely publicized for obvious reasons.
20. Approximately one-sixth of your life is spent on Wednesdays.
21. The skin needed for elbow transplants must be taken from the scrotum of a cadaver.
22. The sport of jai alai originated from a game played by Incan priests who held cats by their tails and swung at leather balls. The cats would instinctively grab at the ball with their claws, thus enabling players to catch them.
23. A cat's purr has the same romance-enhancing frequency as the voice of singer Barry White.
24. The typewriter was invented by Hungarian immigrant Qwert Yuiop, who left his "signature" on the keyboard.
25. The volume of water that the Giant Sequoia tree consumes in a 24-hour period contains enough suspended minerals to pave 17.3 feet of a 4-lane concrete freeway.
26. King Henry VIII slept with a gigantic axe.

Because printed materials are being replaced by CD-ROM, microfiche and the Internet, libraries that previously sank into their foundations under the weight of their books are now in danger of collapsing in extremely high winds.

In 1843, a Parisian street mime got stuck in his imaginary box and consequently died of starvation.

Touch-tone telephone keypads were originally planned to have buttons for Police and Fire Departments, but they were replaced with \* and # when the project was cancelled in favor of developing the 911 system.

Human saliva has a boiling point three times that of regular water.

Calvin, of the “Calvin and Hobbes” comic strip, was patterned after President Calvin Coolidge, who had a pet tiger as a boy.

Watching an hour-long soap opera burns more calories than watching a three-hour baseball game.

Until 1978, Camel cigarettes contained minute particles of real camels.

You can actually sharpen the blades on a pencil sharpener by wrapping your pencils in aluminum foil before inserting them.

To human taste buds, Zima is virtually indistinguishable from zebra urine.

Seven out of every ten hockey-playing Canadians will lose a tooth during a game. For Canadians who don't play hockey, that figure drops to five out of ten.

A dog's naked behind leaves absolutely no bacteria when pressed against carpet.

A team of University of Virginia researchers released a study promoting the practice of picking one's nose, claiming that the health benefits of keeping nasal passages free from infectious blockages far outweigh the negative social connotations.

Among items left behind at Osama bin Laden's headquarters in Afghanistan were 27 issues of Mad Magazine. Al Qaeda members have admitted that bin Laden is reportedly an avid reader.

Urine from male cape water buffaloes is so flammable that some tribes use it for lantern fuel.

At the first World Cup championship in Uruguay, 1930, the soccer balls were actually monkey skulls wrapped in paper and leather.

Every Labrador retriever dreams about bananas.

If you put a bee in a film canister for two hours, it will go blind and leave behind its weight in honey.

Due to the angle at which the optic nerve enters the brain, staring at a blue surface during sex greatly increases the intensity of orgasms.

Never hold your nose and cover your mouth when sneezing, as it can blow out your eyeballs.

Centuries ago, purchasing real estate often required having one or more limbs amputated in order to prevent the purchaser from running away to avoid repayment of the loan. Hence an expensive purchase was said to cost “an arm and a leg.”

When Mahatma Gandhi died, an autopsy revealed five gold Krugerrands in his small intestine.

Aardvarks are allergic to radishes, but only during summer months.

Coca-Cola was the favored drink of Pharaoh Ramses. An inscription found in his tomb, when translated, was found to be almost identical to the recipe used today.

If you part your hair on the right side, you were born to be carnivorous. If you part it on the left, your physical and psychological make-up is that of a vegetarian.

When immersed in liquid, a dead sparrow will make a sound like a crying baby.

In WWII the US military planned to airdrop over France propaganda in the form of Playboy magazine, with coded messages hidden in the models' turn-ons and turn-offs. The plan was scrapped because of a staple shortage due to rationing of metal.

Although difficult, it's possible to start a fire by rapidly rubbing together two Cool Ranch Doritos.

Napoleon's favorite type of wood was knotty chestnut.

The world's smartest pig, owned by a mathematics teacher in Madison, WI, memorized the multiplication tables up to 12.

Due to the natural "momentum" of the ocean, saltwater fish cannot swim backwards.

In ancient Greece, children of wealthy families were dipped in olive oil at birth to keep them hairless throughout their lives.

It is nearly three miles farther to fly from Amarillo, Texas to Louisville, Kentucky than it is to return from Louisville to Amarillo.

The "nine lives" attributed to cats is probably due to their having nine primary whiskers.

The original inspiration for Barbie dolls comes from dolls developed by German propagandists in the late 1930s to impress young girls with the ideal notions of Aryan features. The proportions for Barbie were actually based on those of Eva Braun.

The Venezuelan brown bat can detect and dodge individual raindrops in mid-flight, arriving safely back at his cave completely dry.

## Amazing Facts

People who ride on roller coasters have a higher chance of having a blood clot in the brain.

Black bears are not always black they can be brown, cinnamon, yellow and sometimes white.

People with blue eyes see better in dark.

Each year 30,000 people are seriously injured by exercise equipment.

The placement of a donkey's eyes in its head enables it to see all four feet.

The sun is 330330 times larger than the earth.

The cow gives nearly 200000 glass of milk in her lifetime.

There are more female than male millionaires in the U.S.A.

A male baboon can kill a leopard.

When a person dies, hearing is usually the first sense to go.

Bill gates house was designed using Macintosh computer.

Nearly 22,000 cheques will be deducted from the wrong account over the next hour.

Almost all varieties of breakfast cereals are made from grass.

Some lions mates over 50 times a day.

American did not commonly use forks until after the civil war.

The most productive day of the week is Tuesday.

In the 1930's America track star Jesse Owens used to race against horses and dogs to earn a living.

There is a great mushroom in Oregon that is 2,400 years old. It Covers 3.4 square miles of land and is still growing.

Jimmy Carter is the first USA president to have born in hospital.

Elephants are the only animals that cannot jump.

Cleopatra married two of her brothers.

Human birth control pill works on gorillas.

The right lung takes in more air than the left.

It is illegal to own a red car in shanghai china.

A hard-boiled egg will spin. An uncooked or soft-boiled egg will not.

Astronauts cannot burp in space.

The snowiest city in the USA is Blue Canyon, California.

Lake Nicaragua in Nicaragua is the only fresh water lake in the world that has sharks.

Kite flying is a professional sport in Thailand.

The great warrior Genghis khan died in bed while having sex.

No matter how cold it gets gasoline will not freeze.

SNAILS have 14175 teeth laid along 135 rows on their tongue.

A BUTTERFLY has 12,000 eyes.

Dolphins sleep with 1 eye open.

A BLUE WHALE can eat as much as 3 tones of food everyday, but at the same time can live without food for 6 months.

The EARTH has over 12,00,000 species of animals, 3,00,000 species of plants & 1,00,000 other species.

The fierce DINOSAUR was TYRANNOSAURS which has sixty long & sharp teeth, used to attack & eat other dinosaurs.

DEMETRIO was a mammal like REPTILE with a snail on its back. This acted as a radiator to cool the body of the animal.

CASSOWARY is one of the dangerous BIRDS that can kill a man or animal by tearing off with its dagger like claw.

The SWAN has over 25,000 feathers in its body.

OSTRICH eats pebbles to help digestion by grinding up the ingested food.

POLAR BEAR can look clumsy & slow but during chase on ice, can reach 25 miles / hr of speed.

KIWIS are the only birds, which hunt by sense of smell.

ELEPHANT teeth can weigh as much as 9 pounds.

OWL is the only bird, which can rotate its head to 270 degrees.

In the last 4000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.

On average, people fear spiders more than they do death.

The cigarette lighter was invented before the match.

Like fingerprints, everyone's tongue print is different.

Tapeworms range in size from about 0.04 inch to more than 50 feet in length.

German Shepherds bite humans more than any other breed of dog.

A female mackerel lays about 500,000 eggs at one time.

Crane sleeps standing on one leg.

Shark cannot see, they are very sensitive to sound.

Sneezing stops heart beat for a second and then continues.

Shape of the backbone is important to have sufficient breathing.

Tortoise has very sharp teeth it can rip open the stomach of whale with its teeth.

## **Mind Blowing Facts For General Knowledge**

Turtles have no teeth.

Prehistoric turtles may have weighed as much as 5,000 pounds.

Only one out of a thousand baby sea turtles survives after hatching.

Sea turtles absorb a lot of salt from the sea water in which they live. They excrete excess salt from their eyes, so it often looks as though they're crying.

Helium is a colorless, odorless, tasteless inert gas at room temperature and makes up about 0.0005% of the air we breathe.

Helium Balloon Gas makes balloons float. Helium is lighter than air and just as the heaviest things will tend to fall to the bottom, the lightest things will rise to the top.

Helium Balloon Gas makes balloons float. Helium is lighter than air and just as the heaviest things will tend to fall to the bottom, the lightest things will rise to the top.

Camels can spit.

An ostrich can run 43 miles per hour (70 kilometers per hour).

Pigs are the fourth most intelligent animal in the world.

Dinosaurs didn't eat grass? There was no grass in the days of the dinosaurs.

Dolphins can swim 37 miles per hour (60 kilometers per hour).

A crocodile's tongue is attached to the roof of its mouth? It cannot move. It cannot chew but its Digestive juices are so strong that it can digest a steel nail, Glass pieces, etc.

Sharks are immune to disease i.e. they do not suffer from any Disease.

Animals are either right- or left-handed? Polar bears are always left-handed, and so is Kermit the Frog.

Paris, France has more dogs than people.

New Zealand is home to 70 million sheep and only 40 million people.

Male polar bears weigh 1400 pounds and females only weight 550 pounds, on average.

Bison are excellent swimmers? Their head, hump and tail never go below the surface of the water.

There are 6 to 14 frog's species in the world that have no tongues. One of these is the African dwarf frog.

A frog named Santjie, who was in a frog derby in South Africa jumped 33 feet 5.5 inches.

The longest life span of a frog was 40 years

The eyes of a frog flatten down when it swallows its prey

The name 'India' is derived from the River Indus

The Persian invaders converted it into Hindu. The name 'Hindustan' combines Sindhu and Hindu and thus refers to the land of the Hindus.

Chess was invented in India.

The 'place value system' and the 'decimal system' were developed in 100 BC in India.

The game of snakes & ladders was created by the 13th century poet saint Gyandev. It was originally called 'Mokshapat.' The ladders in the game represented virtues and the snakes indicated vices.

India has the most post offices in the world

'Navigation' is derived from the Sanskrit word NAVGATI

The word navy is also derived from the Sanskrit word 'Nau'.

Until 1896, India was the only source for diamonds to the world

The 'place value system' and the 'decimal system' were developed in 100 BC in India.

A snail can sleep for 3 years.

The names of the continents all end with the same letter with which they start

Twenty-Four-Karat Gold is not pure gold since there is a small amount of copper in it. Absolutely pure gold is so soft that it can be molded with the hands.

Electricity doesn't move through a wire but through a field around the wire.

The first bicycle that was made in 1817 by Baron von Drais didn't have any pedals? People walked it along

The first steam powered train was invented by Robert Stephenson. It was called the Rocket.

A cheetah does not roar like a lion – it purrs like a cat (meow).

The original name for the butterfly was 'flutterby'

An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.

Ants don't sleep.

Dolphins usually live up to about twenty years, but have been known to live for about forty.

Dolphins sleep in a semi-alert state by resting one side of their brain at a time

A dolphin can hold its breath for 5 to 8 minutes at a time



Bats can detect warmth of an animal from about 16 cm away using its “nose-leaf”.

Bats can also find food up to 18 ft. away and get information about the type of insect using their sense of echolocation.

The eyes of the chameleon can move independently & can see in two different directions at the same time.

Cockroach: Can detect movement as small as 2,000 times the diameter of a hydrogen atom.

Dragonfly: Eye contains 30,000 lenses.

Pig's Tongue contains 15,000 taste buds. For comparison, the human tongue has 9,000 taste buds.

The number system was invented by India. Aryabhatta was the scientist who invented the digit zero.

Intelligent people have more zinc and copper in their hair.

Earth weighs 5,972,000,000,000,000,000 tons

Like fingerprints, everyone's tongue print is different.

A duck's quack doesn't echo anywhere

Man is the only animal who'll eat with an enemy

The average woman uses about her height in lipstick every five years.

The first Christmas was celebrated on December 25, AD 336 in Rome.

A Cockroach will live nine days without its head, before it starves to death.

A chimpanzee can learn to recognize itself in a mirror, but monkeys can't

A rat can last longer without water than a camel can

About 10% of the world's population is left-handed

Dolphins sleep with one eye open

Snakes have no external ears. Therefore, they do not hear the music of a “snake charmer”. Instead, they are probably responding to the movements of the snake charmer and the flute. However, sound waves may travel through bones in their heads to the middle ear.

Many spiders have eight eyes.

The tongue of snakes has no taste buds. Instead, the tongue is used to bring smells and tastes into the mouth. Smells and tastes are then detected in two pits, called “Jacobson's organs”, on the roof of their mouths. Receptors in the pits then transmit smell and taste information to the brain.

Birds don't sweat

The highest kangaroo leap recorded is 10 ft and the longest is 42 ft

Flamingo tongues were eaten common at Roman feasts

The smallest bird in the world is the Hummingbird. It weighs 1oz

The bird that can fly the fastest is called a White it can fly up to 95 miles per hour.

The oldest living thing on earth is 12,000 years old. It is the flowering shrubs called creosote bushes in the Mojave Desert

Tea is said to have been discovered in 2737 BC by a Chinese emperor when some tea leaves accidentally blew into a pot of boiling water.

A person can live without food for about a month, but only about a week without water. If the amount of water in your body is reduced by just 1%, one will feel thirsty. If it's reduced by 10%, one will die.

Along with its length neck, the giraffe has a very long tongue — more than a foot and a half long. A giraffe can clean its ears with its 21-inch tongue

Ostriches can kick with tremendous force, but only forward. Don't Mess with them

An elephant can smell water three miles away

If you were to remove your skin, it would weigh as much as 5 pounds

A hippopotamus can run faster than a man

India never invaded any country in her last 10000 years of history

The world's known tallest man is Robert Pershing Wadlow. The giraffe is 5.49m (18 ft.), the man is 2.55m (8ft. 11.1 in.).

The world's tallest woman is Sandy Allen. She is 2.35m (7 ft. 7 in.).

The only 2 animals that can see behind themselves without turning its head are the rabbit and the parrot.

The blue whale is the largest animal on earth. The heart of a blue whale is as big as a car, and its tongue is as long as an elephant.

The largest bird egg in the world today is that of the ostrich. Ostrich eggs are from 6 to 8 inches long. Because of their size and the thickness of their shells, they take 40 minutes to hard-boil. The average adult male ostrich, the world's largest living bird, weighs up to 345 pounds.

Every dolphin has its own signature whistle to distinguish it from other dolphins, much like a human fingerprint

The world's largest mammal, the blue whale, weighs 50 tons i.e. 50000 Kg at birth. Fully grown, it weighs as much as 150 tons i.e. 150000 Kg.

90 % of all the ice in the world in on Antarctica

Antarctica is DRIEST continent. Antarctica is a desert

Antarctica is COLDEST continent, averaging minus 76 degrees in the winter

Mercury is the closest planet to the sun and it doesn't have a moon. Its atmosphere is so thin that during the day the temperature reaches 750 degrees, but at night it gets down to -300 degrees.

Jupiter is the largest planet. If Jupiter were hollow, you could fit 1000 earths inside! It is made up of gas and is not solid. The most famous feature on Jupiter is its Red Spot, which is actually an enormous hurricane that has been raging on Jupiter for hundreds of years! Sixteen moons orbit Jupiter.

Saturn is a very windy place! Winds can reach up to 1,100 miles per hour. Saturn is also made of gas. If you could find an ocean large enough, it would float. This planet is famous for its beautiful rings, and has at least 18 moons.

Uranus is the third largest planet, and is also made of gas. It's tilted on its side and spins north-south rather than east-west. Uranus has 15 moons.

Neptune takes 165 Earth years to get around the sun. It appears blue because it is made of methane gas. Neptune also has a big Spot like Jupiter. Winds on Neptune get up to 1,200 mile per hour! Neptune has 8 moons.

Pluto is the farthest planet from the sun... usually. It has such an unusual orbit that it is occasionally closer to the sun than Neptune. Pluto is made of rock and ice.

Just about everyone listens to the radio! 99% of homes in the United States have a least one radio. Most families have several radios.

Sound is sent from the radio station through the air to your radio by means of electromagnetic waves. News, music, Bible teaching, baseball games, plays, advertisements- these sounds are all converted into electromagnetic waves (radio waves) before they reach your radio and your ears.

At the radio station, the announcer speaks into a microphone. The microphone changes the sound of his voice into an electrical signal. This signal is weak and can't travel very far, so it's sent to a transmitter. The transmitter mixes the signal with some strong radio signals called carrier waves. These waves are then sent out through a special antenna at the speed of light! They reach the antenna of your radio. Your antenna "catches" the signal, and the radio's amplifier strengthens the signal and sends it to the speakers. The speakers vibrate, and your ears pick up the vibrations and your brain translates them into the voice of the radio announcer back at the station. When you consider all the places the announcer's voice travels.

Every radio station has its own frequency. When you turn the tuning knob on your radio, you are choosing which frequency you want your antenna to "catch."

Mountain lions are known by more than 100 names, including panther, catamount, cougar, painter and puma. Its scientific name is *Felis concolor*, which means "cat of one color." At one time, mountain lions were very common!

The large cats of the world are divided into two groups- those that roar, like tigers and African lions, and those that purr. Mountain lions purr, hiss, scream, and snarl, but they cannot roar. They can jump a distance of 30 feet, and jump as high as 15 feet. It would take quite a fence to keep a mountain lion out! Their favorite food is deer, but they'll eat other critters as well. They hunt alone, not in packs like wolves. They sneak up on their

prey just like a house cat sneaks up on a bird or toy- one slow step at a time. A lion can eat ten pounds of meat at one time!

Queen ants can live to be 30 years old

Dragonflies can flap their wings 28 times per second and they can fly up to 60 miles per hour

As fast as dragonflies can flap their wings, bees are even faster... they can flap their wings 435 times per second

Human thigh bones are stronger than concrete.

You can't kill yourself by holding your breath

Your heart beats over 100,000 times a day

Right handed people live, on average, nine years longer than left-handed people

The elephant is the only mammal that can't jump!

Fingernails grow nearly 4 times faster than toenails!

Women blink nearly twice as much as men

Honey is the only food that does not spoil. Honey found in the tombs of Egyptian pharaohs has been tasted by archaeologists and found edible

Coca-Cola would be green if colouring weren't added to it.

More people are allergic to cow's milk than any other food.

Camels have three eyelids to protect themselves from blowing sand

Earth is the only planet not named after a god.

It's against the law to burp, or sneeze in a church in Nebraska, USA.

Some worms will eat themselves if they can't find any food!

It is impossible to sneeze with your eyes open

Queen Elizabeth I regarded herself as a paragon of cleanliness. She declared that she bathed once every three months, whether she needed it or not

Slugs have 4 noses.

Owls are the only birds that can see the blue colour.

Your tongue is the only muscle in your body that is attached at only one end

More than 1,000 different languages are spoken on the continent of Africa.

There was once an undersea post office in the Bahamas.

Abraham Lincoln's mother died when she drank the milk of a cow that grazed on poisonous snakeroot

After the death of Albert Einstein his brain was removed by a pathologist and put in a jar for future study.

Penguins are not found in the North Pole

A dentist invented the Electric Chair.

A whip makes a cracking sound because its tip moves faster than the speed of sound

Alexander Graham Bell's wife and mother were both deaf

Cockroaches break wind every 15 minutes.

Fish scales are an ingredient in most lipsticks

Canada" is an Indian word meaning "Big Village".

259200 people die every day.

11% of the world is left-handed

1.7 liters of saliva is produced each day

The world's oldest piece of chewing gum is 9000 years old!

The largest beetle in the Americas is the Hercules beetle, which can be 4 to 6 inches in length. That's bigger than your hand!

A full-grown male mountain lion may be 9 feet long, including his tail!

There are two kinds of radio stations: AM and FM. That's why there are two dials on your radio. AM is used mostly for stations that specialize in talking, such as Christian stations that have Bible stories and sermons; sports stations that broadcast live baseball and football games; and stations that specialize in news programs and "talk shows," where listeners call the station and discuss various topics. FM is used mostly for stations that specialize in music.

The average lead pencil can draw a line that is almost 35 miles long or you can write almost 50,000 words in English with just one pencil

The Wright Brothers invented one of the first airplanes. It was called the Kitty Hawk.

The worst industrial disaster in India occurred in 1984 in Bhopal the capital of Madhya Pradesh. A deadly chemical, methyl isocyanate leaked out of the Union Carbide factory killing more than 2500 and leaving thousands sick. In fact the effects of this gas tragedy are being felt even today.

Mars is nicknamed the “Red Planet,” because it looks reddish in the night sky. Mars has 2 moons.

Venus is nicknamed the “Jewel of the Sky.” Because of the greenhouse effect, it is hotter than Mercury, even though it’s not as close to the sun. Venus does not have a moon but it does have clouds of sulfuric acid! If you’re going to visit Venus, pack your gas mask!

Tens of thousands of participants come from all over the world, fight in a harmless battle where more than one hundred metric tons of over-ripe tomatoes are thrown in the streets.

## Earth & World

1. Louisiana loses about 30 square miles (78 square kilometers) of land each year to coastal erosion, hurricanes, other natural and human causes and a thing called subsidence, which means sinking.
2. Each Wonder (in 7 wonders) has its own intrigue. Historians agree that the Pyramids stood the test of time, the Lighthouse is the only Wonder that has a practical secular use, and the Temple of Artemis was the most beautiful of all Wonders.
3. About 400 billion gallons of water is used worldwide each day.
4. The industrial complex of Cubatao in Brazil is known as the Valley of Death because its pollution has destroyed the trees and rivers nearby.
5. From a distance, Earth would be the brightest of the 9 planets. This is because sunlight is reflected by the planet's water.
6. The deepest depth in the ocean is 36,198 feet (6.9 miles or 11 kilometers) at the Mariana Trench, in the Pacific Ocean well south of Japan near the Mariana Islands.
7. In 1934, a gust of wind reached 371 km/h on Mount Washington in New Hampshire, USA.
8. Nearly 70 percent of the Earth's fresh-water supply is locked up in the icecaps of Antarctica and Greenland. The remaining fresh-water supply exists in the atmosphere, streams, lakes, or groundwater and accounts for a mere 1 percent of the Earth's total.
9. Earth travels through space at 66,700 miles per hour.
10. The total surface area of the Earth is 197 million square miles.
11. The gravity on Mars is 38% of that found on Earth. So a 100 pounds person on Earth would weigh 38 pounds on Mars.
12. The world's deadliest recorded earthquake occurred in 1557 in central China, more than 830,000 people were killed.
13. Angel Falls in Venezuela is the world's highest waterfall. The water of the falls drops 3,212 feet (979 meters).
14. The Earth is the densest major body in the solar system.
15. Asia Continent is covered 30% of the total earth land area, but represents 60% of the world's population.
16. The greatest tide change on earth occurs in the Bay of Fundy. The difference between low tide and high tide can be as great as 54 ft. 6 in. (16.6 meters).
17. Earth's atmosphere is actually about 80 percent nitrogen. Most of the rest is oxygen, with tiny amounts of other stuff thrown in.
18. The Persian Gulf is the warmest sea. In the summer its temperature reaches 35.6 degrees centigrade.

19. Earth is tipped at 23 and 1/2 degrees in orbit. That axis is what causes our seasons.
20. Only 3% water of the earth is fresh, rest 97% salted. Of that 3%, over 2% is frozen in ice sheets and glaciers. Means less than 1% fresh water is found in lakes, rivers and underground.
21. The largest recorded snowflake was 15in wide and 8in thick. It fell in Montana in 1887.
22. The top three countries have the greatest number of historically active volcanoes are Indonesia, Japan, and the United States in descending order of activity.  
The Pacific Ocean has an average depth of 2.4 miles (3.9 kilometers).
23. The people who live on Tristan da Cunha are over 2,000km (about 1,300 miles) from their nearest neighbours on the island of St. Helena. That's nearly as far as Moscow is from London.
24. A 1960 Chilean earthquake was the strongest earthquake in recent times, which occurred off the coast, had a magnitude of 9.6 and broke a fault more than 1000 miles (1600 kilometers) long.
25. The moon is one million times drier than the Gobi Desert.
26. Each winter there are about 1 septillion (1, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000, 000 or a trillion trillion) snow crystals that drop from the sky.
27. Tibet is the highest country in the world. Its average height above sea level is 4500 meters.
28. In January and February, the average temperature in the high Arctic is -29 F.
29. The hottest planet in the solar system is Venus, with an estimated surface temperature of 864 F (462 C).
30. There is no land at all at the North Pole, only ice on top of sea. The Arctic Ocean has about 12 million sq km of floating ice and has the coldest winter temperature of -34 degrees centigrade.
31. The deepest hole ever made by humans is in Kola Peninsula in Russia, was completed in 1989, creating a hole 12,262 meters (7.6 miles) deep.
32. The Arctic stays black and fiercely cold for months on end. In the High Arctic, the sun sets in October and does not rise again until late February.
33. Sunlight can penetrate clean ocean water to a depth of 240 feet.
34. A huge underground river runs underneath the Nile, with six times more water than the river above.
35. Chile (Africa) is the driest place on Earth, gets just 0.03 inches (0.76 millimeters) of rain per year.
36. At least 1,000 million grams, or roughly 1,000 tons of material (dust) enters the atmosphere every year and makes its way to Earth's surface.
37. Lake Bosumtwi in Ghana formed in a hollow made by a meteorite.
38. Antarctica is the highest, driest, and coldest continent on Earth.



39. The origin of the word “volcano” is derives from Vulcan, the Roman god of fire.
40. The temperature of Earth near the center, its thought to be at least 7,000 degrees Fahrenheit (3,870 Celsius).
41. The largest eggs in the world are laid by a shark.
42. About 540 volcanoes on land are known. No one knows how many undersea volcanoes have erupted through history.
43. The Antarctic ice sheet is 3-4 km thick, covers 13 million sq km and has temperatures as low as -70 degrees centigrade.
44. Only 11 percent of the earth’s surface is used to grow food.
45. The flower with the world’s largest bloom is the Rafflesia arnoldii. This rare flower is found in the rainforests of Indonesia. It can grow to be 3 feet across and weigh up to 15 pounds.
46. Australia, (7,617.930 sq km) is widely considered part of a continental landmass, not officially an island. But without doubt it is the largest island on the planet, and when combined with Oceania, the smallest continent on Earth.
47. The blue whale, Balaenoptera musculus, is the largest known animal ever to have lived on sea or land. Individuals can reach more than 110 feet and weigh nearly 200 tons, more than the weight of 50 adult elephants.
48. The coldest temperature ever measured on Earth was -129 Fahrenheit (-89 Celsius) at Vostok, Antarctica, on July 21, 1983.
49. The age of the earth is Loudly proclaimed by the scientific establishment of evolution believers and the mass media as being around 4.6 billion years old.
50. Monaco is the Highest Density Country of the world, 16,205 people per square k.m. live in Monaco.
51. The lowest dry point on earth is the Dead Sea in the Middle East is about 1300 feet (400 meters) below sea level.
52. Rain has never been recorded in some parts of the Atacama Desert in Chile.
53. Total fertility rate of the world is 2.59 children born/woman. Niger is 7.46 (highest), India is 2.73, US is 2.09 & Hong Kong is 0.95 only (Lowest).
54. The water that falls on a single acre of land during one inch of rainfall, it would weigh 113 tons that is 226,000 pounds.
55. Life began in the seas 3.1 billion to 3.4 billion years ago. Land dwellers appeared 400 million years ago, a relatively recent point in the geologic time line.
56. The Peregrine Falcon around 200mph (320 km/h) is the fastest bird on the planet, the top speed recorded is 242.3mph (390 km/h).
57. About one-third surface of the Earth’s land is desert.

58. The world's windiest place is Commonwealth Bay, Antarctica with winds regularly exceeding 150 miles per hour.
59. The Angel Falls in Venezuela is the world's highest waterfall (979 meters / 3212 ft.), three times the size of the Eiffel Tower.
60. Earth's oceans are an average of 2 Miles deep
61. The temperature of Earth increases about 36 degrees Fahrenheit (20 degrees Celsius) for every kilometer (about 0.62 miles) you go down.
62. The distance from the surface of Earth to the center is about 3,963 miles (6,378 kilometers).
63. The sunrays reached at the earth in 8 minutes & 3 seconds.
64. The warmest sea in the world is the Red Sea, where temperatures range from 68 degrees to 87.8 degrees F depending upon which part you measure.
65. Average 100 lightning strikes occur worldwide every second.
66. One-tenth of the Earth's surface is always under the cover of ice. And almost 90 per cent of that ice is to be found in the continent of Antarctica.
67. Baikal Lake in Russian Fed. is the deepest lake (5315 ft) in the world.
68. The Skylab astronauts grew 1.5 – 2.25 inches (3.8 – 5.7 centimeters) due to spinal lengthening and straightening as a result of zero gravity.
69. The total water supply of the world is 326 million cubic miles (1 cubic mile of water equals more than 1 trillion gallons).
70. About 70% of the world's fresh water is stored as glacial ice.
71. Lake Baikal is about 20 million years old and contains 20 percent of Earth's fresh liquid water.
72. The Sahara Desert in northern Africa is more than 23 times the size of southern California's Mojave Desert.
73. Laika (dog) became the world's first space traveler. Russian scientists sent the small animal aloft in an artificial earth satellite in 1957.
74. The Sarawak Chamber in Malaysia is the largest cave in the world is 2300 feet (701 meters) long, 1300 feet (400 meters) wide, and more than 230 feet (70 meters) high.
75. The most dangerous animal in the world is the common housefly. Because of their habits of visiting animal waste, they transmit more diseases than any other animal.
76. Global Positioning System (GPS) is the only system today that can show your exact position on the Earth anytime, in any weather, no matter where you are!

77. Blue whales are found throughout the world's oceans, the lifespan is estimated to be 80 years & population is between 1300 & 2000 only, its dangerously low.
78. El Azizia in Libya recorded a temperature of 136 degrees Fahrenheit (57.8 Celsius) on Sept. 13, 1922 – the hottest ever measured.
79. The eruption of Tambora volcano is the world's deadliest Volcano in Indonesia in 1815 is estimated to have killed 90,000 people.
80. The highest temperature produced in a laboratory was 920,000,000 F (511,000,000 C) at the Tokamak Fusion Test Reactor in Princeton, NJ, USA.
81. United Arab Emirates is only the country where death rate 2.11/1000 (deaths/1,000 population) is lowest (2009 est.) in the world.
82. Mars has two satellites, Phobos and Deimos. The Earth has only one natural satellite, but it's the Moon.
83. Most earthquakes are triggered less than 50 miles (80 kilometers) from the surface of the Earth.
84. The Largest Ocean of the World is the Pacific Ocean (155,557,000 sq km), It covers nearly one-third of the Earth's surface.
85. Shanghai, China is the largest city by population (13.3 million) in the world.
86. There are between 100,000,000,000 and 1,000,000,000,000 stars in a normal galaxy.
87. Tremendous erosion at the base of Niagara Falls (USA) undermines the shale cliffs and as a result the falls have receded approximately 7 miles over the last 10,000 years.
88. In 1783 an Icelandic eruption threw up enough dust to temporarily block out the sun over Europe.
89. Scientists estimate that more than three-quarters of Earth's surface is of volcanic origin, that is, rocks either erupted by volcanoes or molten rock.
90. The Arabian Sea and the Persian Gulf are connected by the Hormuz Strait.
91. Earth is referred to as the BLUE PLANET. Because from space, the oceans combined with our atmosphere make our planet look blue.
92. The World's largest hot desert is the Sahara in North Africa, at over 9,000,000 km, it is almost as large as the United States.
93. English is the second most spoken language (Native speakers 512 million) & the first is Chinese Mandarin (more than 1 billion speakers).
94. The coldest seas are found near the poles such as the Greenland, Barents, Beaufort, Kara, Laptev & East Siberian Seas found near the north pole & Weddell & Ross Seas found in the south poles. The Baltic Sea is also considered one of the coldest seas.
95. Total fertility rate of the world is 2.59 children born/woman.

96. Continents are typically defined as landmasses made of low-density rock that essentially floats on the molten material below. Greenland fits this description.
97. Birth Rate of Hong Kong is the lowest (7.29/1000) & Niger is highest (50.73/1000).
98. The world's largest island is Greenland, it covers 840,000 square miles (2,176,000 square kilometers).
99. The Antarctic Ice Sheet holds nearly 90 percent of the world's ice and 70 percent of its fresh water. If the entire ice sheet were to melt, sea level would rise by nearly 220 feet.
100. The red planet "Mars" takes 687 Earth-days to go around the Sun, compared to 365 days for Earth.
101. The oceans contain 99 percent of the living space on the planet.
102. American Roy Sullivan has been struck by lightning a record seven times.
103. Some of the oldest mountains in the world are the Highlands in Scotland . They are estimated to be about 400 million years old.
104. About 20 to 30 volcanoes erupt each year, mostly under the sea.
105. The Nile River in Africa is the longest river (6,825 kilometers) of the earth.
106. Mount Everest 8850 meter (29035 ft) Nepal/China is the tallest mountain.
107. The dormant volcano Mauna Kea (on the Big Island of Hawaii) could be considered the tallest mountain in the world. If you measure it from its base in the Hawaiian Trough (3,300 fathoms deep) to its summit of 13,796 feet, it reaches a height of 33,476 feet.
108. Water-meal or Wolffia globosa is the smallest flower in the world, its contains some 38 species of the smallest and simplest flowering plants.
109. Northern Mariana Islands is only the country where death rate (2.29/1000) is lowest in the world.
110. The saltiest sea in the world is the Red Sea with 41 parts of salt per 1,000 parts of water.
111. Of the more than 600 million school-age children in the developing world, 120 million primary school-age children are not in school, 53 percent are girls.
112. Luxembourg is the richest country of the world, the gross national product (GNP) of Luxembourg is \$45,360.
113. The Mauna Loa volcano in Hawaii is the largest volcano on Earth. It rises more than 50,000 feet (9.5 miles or 15.2 kilometers) above its base, which sits under the surface of the sea.
114. Earth is the only planet on which water can exist in liquid form on the surface.
115. The EARTH has over 1,200,000 species of animals, 300,000 species of plants & 100,000 other species.

116. Lake Mead is the largest man-made lake and reservoir in the United States. Formed by water impounded by Hoover Dam, it extends 110 mi (180 km) behind the dam, holding approximately 28.5 million acre feet (35 km<sup>3</sup>) of water.

117. Lloro, Colombia is the wettest place on Earth, averages 523.6 inches of rainfall a year, or more than 40 feet (13 meters). That's about 10 times more than fairly wet major cities in Europe or the United States.

118. Mars days are 24 hours and 37 minutes long, compared to 23 hours, 56 minutes on Earth.

119. Caspian Sea, Asia-Europe is the major lake (371,000 sq km) in the world.

120. Coniferous forest belt supplies most of the world's requirement of newsprint.

121. The fastest 'regular' wind that's widely agreed upon was 231 mph (372 kph), recorded at Mount Washington, New Hampshire, on April 12, 1934.

## Cups And Trophies

(Associated with Sports and Games)

**Sport: Hockey:** Aga khan Cup ,Begam Rasul Torphy (woman's), Maharaja Ranjit Singh Gold Cup, Lady Ratan Tata Trophy (woman's), Gurunanak Championship (woman's) Dhyanchand Trophy, Nehru Trophy, Sindhia Gold cup, Murugappa Gold Cup, Wellington Cup etc,

**Sport: Football:** Beghum Hazarat Mahal Cup, BILT Cup, Bordoloi Trophy Colombo Cup, Confederation cup, DCM Trophy, Durand Cup, Rovers Cup, B.C. Raj Trophy (National Championship), FIFA world Cup, Jules Rimet Trophy, Kalinga Cup, Santosh Trophy (National Championship), IFA Shield, Scissor Cup, Subroto Mukherjee Cup, Sir Ashutosh Mukherjee Trophy, Todd Memorial Trophy, Vittal Trophy, Euro Cup, etc,

**Sport: Cricket:** Anthony D, Mellow Trophy, Ashes, Asia Cup, Benson and Hedges Cup, Bose Trophy, Champions Trophy, Charminar Challender Cup, C.K Naidu Trophy, Cooch – Behar Trophy, Deodhar Trophy, Duldeep Trophy, Gavaskar –Border Trophy, G.D. Birla Trophy, Gillette Cup, Ghulam Ahmad Trophy, Hamkumat Rai Trophy, ICC World Cup, Irani Trophy Interface Cup, Jawharlal Nehru Cup, Lomboard World Challenge Cup, Mc Dowells Challenge Cup, Merchant Cup, Moin –ud –Dowla Cup, Net West Trophy, Prudential Cup(World Cup), Rani Jhansi Trophy, Ranji Trophy, Rohinton Barcia Trophy, Rothmans Cup, Sahara Cup, Sharjah Cup, Sheesh Mahal Trophy, Sheffield Shield, Singer Cup, Sir Frank Worrel Trophy, Texaco Cup, Titan Cup, Vijay Hazare Trophy, Vijay Merchant Trophy, Vizzy Trophy, Wisden Trophy, Wills Trophy, World Series Cup.

**Sport: Table Tennis:** Berna Bellack cup( Men), Cobillion Cup ([women](#)), Jai Laxmi cup(women),Rajkumari Challenge Cup (women junior), Ramanuja Trophy (men Junior), Travancore Cup (women), Swathling Cup (men) etc.

**Sport: Badminton:** Aggrawal Cup, Amrit Diwan Cup, Asia Cup, Australasia Cup, Chaddha Cup, European Cup, Harilela Cup, Ibrahim Rahimatillah Challenger Cup, Konica Cup, Sophia Cup, Kitiakara Cup, Thomas Cup Tunku Abdulrahman Cup, Uber Cup, Yonex Cup etc.

**Sport: Basketball:** Basalat Jha Trophy, B.C. Gupta Trophy, Federation Cup, S.M. Arjuna Raja Trophy, Todd memorial Trophy, William jones Cup, Bangalore Bules Challenge Cup, Nehru Cup, Federation Cup etc.

**Sport: Bridge:** Basalat Jha Trophy, Holkar Trophy, Ruia Gold Cup, Singhania Trophy. etc

**Sport: Polo:** Ezra Cup, Gold Cup, King's Cup, Prithi Pal Singh Cup, Radha Mohan Cup, Winchester Cup etc.

**Sport: Athletics:** Charminar Trophy, Federation Cup etc.

**Sport: Air Racing:** Jawaharlal Challenge Trophy, King's Cup, Schneider Cup etc.

**Sport: Billiards:** Arthur Walker Trophy, Thomas Cup etc.

**Sport: Boxing:** Aspy Adjahia Trophy, Federations Cup,Val Baker Trophy etc.

**Sport: Golf:** Canada Cup, Eisenhower Trophy, Muthiah Gold Cup, Nomura Trophy, President 's Trophy,

Prince of wales Cup, Ryder Cup, Solheim Cup, Topolino Trophy, Walker Cup, World Cup etc.

**Sport: Chess:** Naidu Trophy, Khaitan Torphy , Lin Are City Trophy, World Cup etc.

**Sport: Horse Racing:** Beresford Cup, Blue Riband Cup, Derby, Grand National Cup etc.

**Sport: Netball:** Anantrao Pawar Trophy etc.

**Sport: Rugby Football:** Bledisloe Cup, Calcutta Cup, Webb Ellis Trophy, etc.

**Sport: Shooting:** North Wales Cup, Welsh Grand Prix etc.

**Sport: Volleyball:** Centennial Cup, Federation Cup, and Indira Pradhan Trophy, Shivanthi Gold Cup, etc.

**Sport: Yatch Racing:** America Cup etc.

## **U.S.A. Presidents**

<b>President</b>	<b>Vice President</b>
George Washington (1789-1797)	John Adams (1789-1797)
John Adams (1797-1801)	Thomas Jefferson (1797-1801)
Thomas Jefferson (1801-1809)	Aaron Burr (1801-1805)
	George Clinton (1805-1809)
James Madison (1809-1817)	George Clinton (1809-1812)
	none (1812-1813)
	Elbridge Gerry (1813-1814)
	none (1814-1817)
James Monroe (1817-1825)	Daniel D. Tompkins (1817-1825)
John Quincy Adams (1825-1829)	John C. Calhoun (1825-1829)
Andrew Jackson (1829-1837)	John C. Calhoun (1829-1832)
	none (1832-1833)
	Martin Van Buren (1833-1837)
Martin Van Buren (1837-1841)	Richard M. Johnson (1837-1841)
William Henry Harrison (1841)	John Tyler (1841)
John Tyler (1841-1845)	none (1841-1845)
James K. Polk (1845-1849)	George M. Dallas (1845-1849)
Zachary Taylor (1849-1850)	Millard Fillmore (1849-1850)
Millard Fillmore (1850-1853)	none (1850-1853)
Franklin Pierce (1853-1857)	William King (1853)
	none (1853-1857)



James Buchanan (1857-1861)	John C. Breckinridge (1857-1861)
Abraham Lincoln (1861-1865)	Hannibal Hamlin (1861-1865)
	Andrew Johnson (1865)
Andrew Johnson (1865-1869)	none (1865-1869)
Ulysses S. Grant (1869-1877)	Schuyler Colfax (1869-1873)
	Henry Wilson (1873-1875)
	none (1875-1877)
Rutherford B. Hayes (1877-1881)	William Wheeler (1877-1881)
James A. Garfield (1881)	Chester Arthur (1881)
Chester Arthur (1881-1885)	none (1881-1885)
Grover Cleveland (1885-1889)	Thomas Hendricks (1885)
	none (1885-1889)
Benjamin Harrison (1889-1893)	Levi P. Morton (1889-1893)
Grover Cleveland (1893-1897)	Adlai E. Stevenson (1893-1897)
William McKinley (1897-1901)	Garret Hobart (1897-1899)
	none (1899-1901)
	Theodore Roosevelt (1901)
Theodore Roosevelt (1901-1909)	none (1901-1905)
	Charles Fairbanks (1905-1909)
William Howard Taft (1909-1913)	James S. Sherman (1909-1912)
	none (1912-1913)
Woodrow Wilson (1913-1921)	Thomas R. Marshall (1913-1921)
Warren G. Harding (1921-1923)	Calvin Coolidge (1921-1923)

Calvin Coolidge (1923-1929)	none (1923-1925)
	Charles Dawes (1925-1929)
Herbert Hoover (1929-1933)	Charles Curtis (1929-1933)
Franklin D. Roosevelt (1933-1945)	John Nance Garner (1933-1941)
	Henry A. Wallace (1941-1945)
	Harry S Truman (1945)
Harry S Truman (1945-1953)	none (1945-1949)
	Alben Barkley (1949-1953)
Dwight D. Eisenhower (1953-1961)	Richard Nixon (1953-1961)
John F. Kennedy (1961-1963)	Lyndon B. Johnson (1961-1963)
Lyndon B. Johnson (1963-1969)	none (1963-1965)
	Hubert Humphrey (1965-1969)
Richard Nixon (1969-1974)	Spiro Agnew (1969-1973)
	none (1973)
	Gerald Ford (1973-1974)
Gerald Ford (1974-1977)	none (1974)
	Nelson Rockefeller (1974-1977)
Jimmy Carter (1977-1981)	Walter Mondale (1977-1981)
Ronald Reagan (1981-1989)	George Bush (1981-1989)
George Bush (1989-1993)	Dan Quayle (1989-1993)
Bill Clinton (1993-2001)	Al Gore (1993-2001)
George W. Bush (2001-2009)	Dick Cheney (2001-2009)
Barack Obama (2009-present)	Joe Biden (2009-present)



## Female World Leaders In Power

#	Country	Leader	In office since:	Notes
1	Ireland	President Mary McAleese	Nov. 11, 1997 -	elected
2	Finland ( <i>1st</i> )	President Tarja Halonen	Mar. 1, 2000 -	elected
3	Germany	Chancellor Angela Merkel	Nov. 22, 2005 -	elected
4	Liberia	President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf	Jan. 16, 2006 -	elected
5	India	President Pratibha Patil	Jul. 25, 2007 -	elected
6	Argentina	President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner	Dec. 10, 2007 -	elected
7	Bangladesh	Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Wajed	Jan. 6, 2009 -	elected
8	Iceland	Prime Minister Johanna Sigurdardóttir	Feb. 1, 2009 -	appointed 2009, elected 2009
9	Croatia	Prime Minister Jadranka Kosor	Jul. 6, 2009 -	appointed
10	Lithuania	President Dalia Grybauskaitė	Jul. 12, 2009 -	elected
11	Kyrgyzstan	President Rosa Otunbayeva	Apr. 7, 2010 -	coup
12	Costa Rica	President Laura Chinchilla	May 8, 2010 -	elected
13	Trinidad and Tobago	Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar	May 26, 2010 -	elected
14	Finland ( <i>2nd</i> )	Prime Minister Mari Kiviniemi	Jun. 22, 2010 -	appointed
15	Australia	Prime Minister Julia Gillard	Jun. 24, 2010 -	appointed 2010, elected 2010
16	Slovakia	Prime Minister Iveta Radicova	Jul. 8, 2010 -	elected
17	Brazil	President Dilma Rousseff	Jan. 1, 2011 -	elected
18	Switzerland	President Micheline Calmy-Rey	Jan. 1, 2011 -	appointed

“**Elected**” refers to women leaders who were elected in democratic elections.

“**Succeeded**” refers to leaders who automatically assumed their position following the resignation or impeachment of a predecessor, and were thus not specifically elected to their post.

“**Appointed**” refers to leaders who were appointed to office by a ruling party or executive, and were thus not specifically elected to their post.

“**Coup**” refers to a leader who staged a coup or revolution to take office through force.

Sometimes leaders who were originally appointed to office managed to win election. In such cases both dates are noted.

### Queens or Vice-Regal Females in power

A few countries have reigning female queens, or, if they are a member of the British Commonwealth, a female governor general representing Queen Elizabeth as Head of State. As they are merely symbolic rulers, they do not officially “count” as female world leaders in the same way politicians do.

#	Country	Leader	In office since:
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1	<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>Queen Elizabeth II</b>	Feb. 6, 1952 -
2	<b>Denmark</b>	<b>Queen Margethe II</b>	Jan. 14, 1972 -
3	<b>Netherlands</b>	<b>Queen Beatrix</b>	Apr. 30, 1980 -
4	<b>Saint Lucia</b>	<b>Governor-General Dame Pearlette Louisy</b>	Sep. 17, 1997 -
5	<b>Antigua and Barbuda</b>	<b>Governor-General Dame Louise Lake-Tack</b>	Jul. 17, 2007 -
6	<b>Australia</b>	<b>Governor-General Quentin Bryce</b>	Sep. 5, 2008 -

All countries with female presidents, past and present

Country	Leader	Term	Notes
<b>Argentina</b> ( <i>1st time</i> )	President <b>Isabel Peron</b>	Jul. 1, 1974 – Mar. 24, 1976	succeeded, wife
<b>Iceland</b>	President <b>Vigdís Finnbogadóttir</b>	Aug. 1, 1980 – Jul. 31, 1996	elected
<b>Malta</b>	President <b>Agatha Barbara</b>	Feb. 15, 1982 – Feb. 15, 1987	elected
<b>Philippines</b> ( <i>1st time</i> )	President <b>Corazon Aquino</b>	Feb. 25, 1986 – Jun. 30, 1992	elected, wife*
<b>Nicaragua</b>	President <b>Violeta de Chamorro</b>	Apr. 25, 1990 – Jan. 10, 1997	elected
<b>Ireland</b> ( <i>1st time</i> )	President <b>Mary Robinson</b>	Dec. 3, 1990 – Sep. 12, 1997	elected
<b>Sri Lanka</b>	President <b>Chandrika Kumaratunga</b>	Nov. 12, 1994 – Nov. 19, 2005	elected, daughter
<b>Ireland</b> ( <i>2nd time</i> )	President <b>Mary McAleese</b>	Nov. 11, 1997 -	elected
<b>Guyana</b>	President <b>Janet Jagan</b>	Dec. 19, 1997 – Aug. 11, 1999	elected, wife
<b>Switzerland</b> ( <i>1st time</i> )	President <b>Ruth Dreifuss</b>	Jan. 1, 1999 – Dec. 31, 1999	appointed
<b>Latvia</b>	President <b>Vaira Vike-Freiberga</b>	Jul. 8, 1999 – Jul. 8, 2007	elected
<b>Panama</b>	President <b>Mireya Moscoso</b>	Sep. 1, 1999 – Sep. 1, 2004	elected, wife
<b>Finland</b>	President <b>Tarja Halonen</b>	Mar. 1, 2000 -	elected
<b>Philippines</b> ( <i>2nd time</i> )	President <b>Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo</b>	Jan. 20, 2001 – June 30, 2010	succeeded 2001, elected 2004, daughter
<b>Indonesia</b>	President <b>Megawati Sukarnoputri</b>	Jul. 23, 2001 – Oct. 20, 2004	succeeded, daughter
<b>Liberia</b>	President <b>Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf</b>	Jan. 16, 2006 -	elected
<b>Chile</b>	President <b>Michelle Bachelet</b>	Mar. 11, 2006 –	elected

		Mar. 11, 2010	
<b>Switzerland</b> (2nd time)	President <b>Micheline Calmy-Rey</b>	Jan. 1, 2007 – Dec. 31, 2007	appointed
<b>India</b>	President <b>Pratibha Patil</b>	Jul. 25, 2007 -	elected
<b>Argentina</b> (2nd time)	President <b>Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner</b>	Dec. 10, 2007 -	elected, wife
<b>Lithuania</b>	President <b>Dalia Grybauskaite</b>	Jul. 12, 2009 -	elected
<b>Switzerland</b> (3rd time)	President <b>Doris Leuthard</b>	Jan. 1, 2010 – Dec. 31, 2011	appointed
<b>Kyrgyzstan</b>	President <b>Rosa Otunbayeva</b>	Apr. 7, 2010 -	coup
<b>Costa Rica</b>	President <b>Laura Chinchilla</b>	May 8, 2010 -	elected
<b>Brazil</b>	President <b>Dilma Rousseff</b>	Jan. 1, 2011 -	elected
<b>Switzerland</b> (4th time)	President <b>Micheline Calmy-Rey</b>	Jan. 1, 2011 -	appointed

“**Wife**” indicates leaders whose husband was also president at one time.

“**Daughter**” indicates leaders whose father was also president at one time.

\* though not a wife of a president, Ms. Aquino’s political career was largely the result of her marriage to a very prominent senator, who was later assassinated. Her son, interestingly, would also later serve as president.

Less than a year in power (*acting, interim leaders, etc*)

The following female leaders all assumed office on some sort of interim basis and cannot be properly regarded as a “full” president. They often held the presidency while simultaneously holding some other office of government, usually speaker of the house.

Country	Leader	Term
<b>Mongolia</b>	President <b>Sukhbaataryn Yanjmaa</b>	Sep. 23, 1953 – Jul. 7, 1954
<b>Bolivia</b>	President <b>Lydia Gueiler Tejada</b>	Nov. 17, 1980 – Jul. 18, 1980
<b>Guinea-Bissau</b>	President <b>Carmen Pereira</b>	May 14, 1984 – May 16, 1984
<b>Haiti</b>	President <b>Ertha Pascal-Trouillot</b>	Mar. 13, 1990 – Jan. 7, 1991
<b>East Germany</b>	President <b>Sabine Bergmann-Pohl</b>	Apr. 5, 1990 – Oct. 2, 1990
<b>Liberia</b>	President <b>Ruth Perry</b>	Sep. 3, 1996 – Aug. 2, 1997
<b>Ecuador</b>	President <b>Rosalía Arteaga Serrano</b>	Feb. 9, 1997 – Feb. 11, 1997
<b>Georgia</b> (1st time)	President <b>Nino Burjanadz</b>	Nov. 23, 2003 – Jan. 25, 2004
<b>Georgia</b> (2nd time)	President <b>Nino Burjanadz</b>	Nov. 25, 2007 – Jan. 20, 2008
<b>Israel</b>	President <b>Dalia Itzik</b>	Jan. 25, 2007 – Jul. 15, 2007
<b>Gabon</b>	President <b>Rose Francine Rogombé</b>	Jun. 10, 2009 – Oct. 16, 2009

All countries with female prime ministers, past and present

Country	Leader	Term	Notes
<b>Sri Lanka</b> ( <i>1st time</i> )	Prime Minister <b>Sirimavo Bandaranaike</b>	Jul. 21, 1960 – Mar. 27, 1965	elected, wife
<b>India</b> ( <i>1st time</i> )	Prime Minister <b>Indira Gandhi</b>	Jan. 19, 1966 – Mar. 24, 1977	elected, daughter
<b>Israel</b>	Prime Minister <b>Golda Meir</b>	Mar. 17, 1969 – Jun. 3, 1974	appointed 1969, elected 1971
<b>Sri Lanka</b> ( <i>2nd time</i> )	Prime Minister <b>Sirimavo Bandaranaike</b>	May 29, 1970 – Jul. 23, 1977	“
<b>Central African Republic</b>	Prime Minister <b>Elisabeth Domitien</b>	Jan. 2, 1975 – Apr. 7, 1976	appointed*
<b>United Kingdom</b>	Prime Minister <b>Margaret Thatcher</b>	May 4, 1979 – Nov. 28, 1990	elected
<b>India</b> ( <i>2nd time</i> )	Prime Minister <b>Indira Gandhi</b>	Jan. 14, 1980 – Oct. 31, 1984	“
<b>Dominica</b>	Prime Minister <b>Dame Eugenia Charles</b>	Jul. 21, 1980 – Jun. 14, 1995	elected
<b>Norway</b> ( <i>1st time</i> )	Prime Minister <b>Gro Harlem Brundtland</b>	Feb. 4, 1981 – Oct. 14, 1981	elected
<b>Yugoslavia</b>	Prime Minister <b>Milka Planinc</b>	May 16, 1982 – May 15, 1986	appointed*
<b>Norway</b> ( <i>2nd time</i> )	Prime Minister <b>Gro Harlem Brundtland</b>	May 9, 1986 – Oct. 16, 1989	“
<b>Pakistan</b> ( <i>1st time</i> )	Prime Minister <b>Benazir Bhutto</b>	Dec. 2, 1988 – Aug. 6, 1990	elected, daughter
<b>Norway</b> ( <i>3rd time</i> )	Prime Minister <b>Gro Harlem Brundtland</b>	Nov. 3, 1990 – Oct. 25, 1996	“
<b>Bangladesh</b> ( <i>1st time</i> )	Prime Minister <b>Khaleda Zia</b>	Mar. 20, 1991 – Mar. 30, 1996	elected, daughter
<b>Poland</b>	Prime Minister <b>Hanna Suchocka</b>	Jul. 8, 1992 – Oct. 26, 1993	appointed
<b>Turkey</b>	Prime Minister <b>Tansu Çiller</b>	Jun. 25, 1992 – Mar. 6, 1996	appointed
<b>Pakistan</b> ( <i>2nd time</i> )	Prime Minister <b>Benazir Bhutto</b>	Oct. 19, 1993 – Nov. 5, 1996	“
<b>Sri Lanka</b> ( <i>3rd time</i> )	Prime Minister <b>Sirimavo Bandaranaike</b>	Nov. 14, 1994 – Aug. 10, 2000	“
<b>New Zealand</b> ( <i>1st time</i> )	Prime Minister <b>Jenny Shippley</b>	Dec. 8, 1997 – Dec. 10, 1999	appointed
<b>New Zealand</b> ( <i>2nd time</i> )	Prime Minister <b>Helen Clark</b>	Dec. 10, 1999 – Nov. 19, 2008	elected
<b>Senegal</b>	Prime Minister <b>Mame Madior Boye</b>	Mar. 2, 2001 – Nov. 4, 2002	appointed

<b>Bangladesh</b> ( <i>2nd time</i> )	Prime Minister <b>Khaleda Zia</b>	Oct. 10, 2001 – Oct. 29, 2006	“
<b>São Tomé and Príncipe</b>	Prime Minister <b>Maria das Neves</b>	Oct. 7, 2002 – Sep. 18, 2004	appointed
<b>Mozambique</b>	Prime Minister <b>Luisa Diogo</b>	Feb. 17, 2004 – Jan. 16, 2010	appointed 2004, elected 2009
<b>Ukraine</b> ( <i>1st time</i> )	Prime Minister <b>Yuliya Tymoshenko</b>	Jan. 24, 2005 – Sep. 8, 2005	elected
<b>Germany</b>	Chancellor <b>Angela Merkel</b>	Nov. 22, 2005 -	elected
<b>Jamaica</b>	Prime Minister <b>Portia Simpson Miller</b>	Mar. 30, 2006 – Sep. 11, 2007	appointed
<b>South Korea</b>	Prime Minister <b>Han Myung Sook</b>	Ap. 19, 2006 – Mar. 7, 2007	appointed
<b>Ukraine</b> ( <i>2nd time</i> )	Prime Minister <b>Yuliya Tymoshenko</b>	Dec. 18, 2007 – Mar. 11, 2010	“
<b>Haiti</b> ( <i>2nd time</i> )	Prime Minister <b>Michele Pierre-Louis</b>	Sep. 5, 2008 – Nov. 11, 2009	appointed
<b>Bangladesh</b>	Prime Minister <b>Sheikh Hasina Wajed</b>	Jan. 6, 2009 -	elected
<b>Iceland</b>	Prime Minister <b>Johanna Sigurdardóttir</b>	Feb. 1, 2009 -	appointed 2009, elected 2009
<b>Croatia</b>	Prime Minister <b>Jadranka Kosor</b>	Jul. 6, 2009 -	appointed
<b>Trinidad and Tobago</b>	Prime Minister <b>Kamla Persad-Bissessar</b>	May 26, 2010 -	elected
<b>Australia</b>	Prime Minister <b>Julia Gillard</b>	Jun. 24, 2010 -	appointed
<b>Finland</b>	Prime Minister <b>Mari Kiviniemi</b>	Jun. 22, 2010 -	appointed
<b>Slovakia</b>	Prime Minister <b>Iveta Radicová</b>	Jul. 8, 2010 -	elected

\* Ms. Milka Planinc served as head of government in Yugoslavia's Communist regime. Élisabeth Domitien served under the dictatorship of the insane “Emperor” Bokassa. They are the only two female prime ministers who ruled in non-democratic countries.

Less than a year in power (*acting, interim leaders, etc*)

Country	Leader	Term
<b>Portugal</b>	Prime Minister <b>Maria de Lurdes Pintassilgo</b>	Aug. 1, 1979 – Jan. 3, 1980
<b>Lithuania</b> ( <i>1st time</i> )	Prime Minister <b>Kazimiera Prunskien</b>	Mar. 17, 1990 – Jan. 10, 1991
<b>France</b>	Prime Minister <b>Edith Cresson</b>	May 15, 1991 – Apr. 2, 1992
<b>Burundi</b>	Prime Minister <b>Sylvie Kinigi</b>	Jul. 10, 1993 – Feb. 7, 1994



<b>Canada</b>	Prime Minister <b>Kim Campbell</b>	Jun. 25, 1993 – Nov. 4, 1993
<b>Rwanda</b>	Prime Minister <b>Agathe Uwilingiyimana</b>	Jul. 18, 1993 – Apr. 7, 1994
<b>Bulgaria</b>	Prime Minister <b>Reneta Indzhova</b>	Oct. 17, 1994 – Jan. 25, 1995
<b>Sri Lanka</b>	Prime Minister <b>Chandrika Kumaratunga</b>	Aug. 19, 1994 – Nov. 12, 1994
<b>Haiti</b>	Prime Minister <b>Claudette Werleigh</b>	Nov. 7, 1995 – Mar. 6, 1996
<b>Guyana</b>	Prime Minister <b>Janet Jagan</b>	Mar. 17, 1997 – Dec. 22, 1997
<b>Lithuania (2nd time)</b>	Prime Minister <b>Irena Degutiene</b>	May 4, 1999 – May 18, 1999
<b>Lithuania (3rd time)</b>	Prime Minister <b>Irena Degutiene</b>	Oct. 27, 1999 – Nov. 3, 1999
<b>Mongolia</b>	Prime Minister <b>Nyam-Osoryn Tuyaa</b>	Jul. 22, 1999 – Jul. 30, 1999
<b>South Korea</b>	Prime Minister <b>Chang Sang</b>	Jul. 11, 2002 – Jul. 31, 2002
<b>Finland</b>	Prime Minister <b>Anneli Jaatteenmaki</b>	Apr. 17, 2003 – Jun. 24, 2003
<b>Peru</b>	Prime Minister <b>Beatriz Merino</b>	June 28, 2003 – Dec. 15, 2003
<b>Macedonia (1st time)</b>	Prime Minister <b>Radmila Sekerinska</b>	May 12, 2004 – Jun. 2, 2004
<b>Macedonia (2nd time)</b>	Prime Minister <b>Radmila Sekerinska</b>	Nov. 18, 2004 – Dec. 17, 2004
<b>São Tomé and Príncipe</b>	Prime Minister <b>Maria do Carmo Silveira</b>	Jun. 8, 2005 – Apr. 21, 2006

All countries with female governor-generals

<b>Canada (1st time)</b>	Governor-General <b>Jeanne Sauvé</b>	May 14, 1984 – Jan. 29, 1990
<b>Barbados</b>	Governor-General <b>Dame Nita Barrow</b>	Jun. 6, 1990 – Dec. 19, 1995
<b>New Zealand (1st time)</b>	Governor-General <b>Dame Catherine Tizard</b>	Nov. 20, 1990 – Mar. 21, 1996
<b>Saint Lucia</b>	Governor-General <b>Dame Pearlette Louisy</b>	Sep. 17, 1997 -
<b>Canada (2nd time)</b>	Governor-General <b>Adrienne Clarkson</b>	Oct. 7, 1999 – Sep. 27, 2005
<b>New Zealand (2nd time)</b>	Governor-General <b>Dame Silvia Cartwright</b>	Apr. 4, 2001 – Aug. 23, 2006
<b>Bahamas</b>	Governor-General <b>Dame Ivy Dumont</b>	Nov. 13, 2001 – Nov. 25, 2005
<b>Canada (3rd time)</b>	Governor-General <b>Michaelle Jean</b>	Sep. 27, 2005 – Oct. 1, 2010
<b>Antigua and Barbuda</b>	Governor-General <b>Dame Louise Lake-Tack</b>	Jul. 17, 2007 -
<b>Australia</b>	Governor-General <b>Quentin Bryce</b>	Sep. 5, 2008 -

Countries that have had more than one female leader (includes acting, interim leaders etc)

<b>Switzerland (4)</b>	Four presidents*
<b>Sri Lanka (3)</b>	One president, two prime ministers
<b>Haiti (3)</b>	One president, two prime ministers

<b>Finland (3)</b>	One president, two prime ministers
<b>Argentina (2)</b>	Two presidents
<b>Bangladesh (2)</b>	Two prime ministers
<b>Guyana (2)</b>	One president, one prime minister*
<b>Iceland (2)</b>	One president, one prime minister
<b>India (2)</b>	One president, one prime minister
<b>Ireland (2)</b>	Two presidents
<b>Israel (2)</b>	One president, one prime minister
<b>Lithuania (2)</b>	One president, two prime ministers
<b>Liberia (2)</b>	Two presidents
<b>Philippines (2)</b>	Two presidents
<b>New Zealand (2)</b>	Two prime ministers
<b>São Tomé and Príncipe (2)</b>	Two prime ministers
<b>South Korea (2)</b>	Two prime ministers

Switzerland has seen four female presidential terms, though two of those were held by the same woman. Guyana's double-status is debatable, since their female prime minister and female president were the same person.

#### Historic figures

<b>Sükhbaataryn Yanjmaa of Mongolia</b> (1953-1954)	World's first female (acting) president
<b>Sirimavo Bandaranaike of Sri Lanka</b> (1960-1965)	World's first female prime minister
<b>Isabel Peron of Argentina</b> (1974-1976)	World's first female (non-acting) president
<b>Vigdís Finnbogadóttir of Iceland</b> (1980-1996)	World's first female elected president, and first female world leader who did not have a father or husband who was also leader at one time.
<b>Mary McAleese of Ireland</b> (1997- )	First time that a female president directly succeed another female president.
<b>Sri Lanka</b> (1994-2000)	First time that a nation possessed a female prime minister and a female president simultaneously. Sri Lanka in 1994 also marked the first time a female prime minister directly succeeded another female prime minister.
<b>Jóhanna Sigurdardóttir of Iceland</b> (2009- )	World's first lesbian world leader, first female world leader to wed a same-sex partner while in office.

## Inventions & Discoveries

### Pioneers in Science

#### *Inventions and discoveries in Physics and Chemistry*

**Anderson**—Discovered positive electrons.

**Archimedes**—Discovery of the Principles of lever and of specific gravity; invention of the famous Archimedean screw.

**Avogadro**—An Italian scientist known for Avogadro's Hypothesis.

**Bacquerel**—Radio-activity of uranium.

**Baird**—Television.

**Baron Napier**—Logarithms.

**Benjamin Franklin**—Invented lightning conductor.

**Bessemer**—Steel smelting process.

**Bhabha, Dr H.J.**—Research in Cosmic rays and Quantum theory.

**Binet**—Intelligence Test.

**Birbal Sahni**—Researches in Botany.

**Bose, J.C.**—Invented Crescograph and published many works on plant physiology. He discovered that plants have sense and perception.

**Bose, S.N.**—Discovery of a group of nuclear particles named after him "Boson".

**Boyle**—Boyle's law; Pressure x volume = constant at a constant given temperature. Boyle was the greatest scientist of England in his time.

**Bohr**—Electron Theory—Atomic structure.

**Braun, Dr Wernher von**—space flying.

**Bunsen**—Invention of the spectroscope.

**Carothers**—Nylon plastics.

**Cavendish**—Discovery of chemical composition of water; discovery of hydrogen (Inflammable Air); 'rare gases'.

**Chadwick**—Discovery of the neutron.

**Chandrasekhar**—Mathematical Astrophysics.

**Charles Darwin**—Theory of Evolution; Origin of Species.

**Clarke, Arthur C.**—Concept of Geostationary Orbit.

**Curie, Madame**—Discovery of radium.

**Dalton**—Atomic theory; laws of chemical combination; law of partial pressures; the law of multiple proportions.

**Democritus**—Greek philosopher—(Atomic theory).

**Dewar**—Invented cordite, liquid [oxygen](#) and introduced thermos flask.

**Einstein**—Theory of relativity.

**Euclid**—Science of geometry.

**Fahrenheit**—Fahrenheit mercury thermometric scale in which freezing point is  $-32^{\circ}$  and boiling point is  $212^{\circ}$ .

**Faraday**—Electromagnetic induction and laws of electrolysis.

**Fermi**—Discovered artificial splitting of atoms.

**Freud**—Doctrine of Psycho-analysis.

**Gay Lussac**—Law of gases.

**Gauss**—System of absolute electric measurements.

**Good Year**—Discovered the art of vulcanising rubber.

**Herschel, William**—Discovered the Planet—Uranus.

**Hertz**—Electrical waves.

**Hippalus**—Founder of scientific astronomy.

**Hoffmann**—Discovered the first aniline dye.

**Kelvin, Lord**—Dynamical theory of heat.

**Khorana, Dr Hargobind**—Deciphering the genetic code.

**Kodak**—Film and photographic goods.

**Lablanc**—Manufacture of washing soda.  
**Lawrence**—Invention of cyclotron.  
**Lockyer**—Helium gas.  
**Louis Braille**—Perfected his system of [reading](#) and writing for the blind.  
**Marconi**—Wireless telegraphy; radio.  
**Maria-Montessori**—‘Montessori’ method of teaching [children](#).  
**Maxwell**—Electro-magnetic Theory of Light.  
**Meghnad Saha**—Effect of pressure on Radiation through bodies.  
**Mendel**—Laws of heredity.  
**Mandeleev**—Periodic Table.  
**Morse**—Morse system of electric telegraphy.  
**Newton**—Laws of gravitation; Law of Motion.  
**Nobel**—Dynamite.  
**Oliver Lodge**—Physicist. Researches in wireless communications.  
**Oppenheimer**—Researches in atomic theory.  
**Otto Hahn**—Discovery of uranium fission.  
**Parkes**—Celluloid.  
**Parsons**—Steam turbine.  
**Pavlov**—Theory of Conditioned Reflex.  
**Perkin**—‘Mauve dye’.  
**Pitman**—Founded the Pitman system of phonographic shorthand.  
**Planck**—Quantum theory.  
**Plimsoll**—Introduced a line of demarcation on the ships beyond which the ships cannot be loaded.  
**Priestley**—Discovery of Oxygen.  
**Raman, C.V.**—“Raman Effect” on polarisation of light and theories on crystals and diamond formation.  
**Ramanathan**—Molecular scattering of light in fluids.  
**Ramanujam**—A great Indian mathematician.  
**Ramsay**—Discovery of Inert gases such as Argon, Neon, Helium etc.  
**Ray, P.C.**—Researches in chemistry.  
**Regnault**—Experiments in regard to the physical properties of bodies and their relation to heat.  
**Roger Bacon**—Gun powder.  
**Rontgen**—Discovery of X-rays.  
**Rohmkorff**—Induction coil.  
**Rutherford**—Atomic Research; succeeded in splitting the atom for the first time in 1918.  
**Shalimar**—Paints.  
**Stephenson**—British engineer and pioneer in Railways. He was the first to put a locomotive on the line that was able to draw a train of 31 carriages.  
**Thomson, J.J.**—Discovered electron.  
**Travers**—Discovery of Neon gas (Working with Ramsay).  
**Urey**—Discovery of Heavy Hydrogen.  
**Volta**—Current electricity and electric battery.

### **Pioneers in Mechanical Inventions and Discoveries**

**Austin**—Motor Car.  
**Bell, Graham**—Telephone.  
**Berliner**—Microphone.  
**Brequet**—Helicopter.  
**Bushwell**—Submarine.  
**Caxton**—Printing Press.  
**Colt**—Revolver.

**Daimler**—Gas engine.  
**Davy**—Miner's Safety Lamp.  
**Diesel**—Internal Combustion engine (Diesel engine).  
**Dunlop**—Pneumatic tyre.  
**Edison**—First electric bulb and gramophone.  
**Faraday**—Dynamo.  
**Fick**—Law of Diffusion—Fick's Law.  
**Frank Whittle**—Jet propulsion.  
**Fulton**—Stream boat.  
**Galileo**—Telescope.  
**Gillette**—Safety razor.  
**Guttenburg**—Art of Printing.  
**Hoe**—Rotary Printing Press.  
**Howe**—Sewing Machine.  
**Huygens**—Pendulum clock.  
**James Watt**—Steam engine (patented in 1769).  
**Landstrom, J.E.**—Safety Matches.  
**Macmillan**—Bicycle (1842).  
**Mauser**—Magazine of rifle.  
**Mercator**—Celestial and a terrestrial globe.  
**Montgolfier**—Balloon (1883)  
**Pascal**—Calculating Machine.  
**Puckle, James**—Machine gun  
**Shockley**—Transistor.  
**Sholes**—Typewriter.  
**Stephenson**—Railway engine.  
**Swinton**—Military tank.  
**Torricelli**—Barometer.  
**Watt, Robert Watson**—Radar.  
**W. & O. Wright** (Wright Brothers)—Aeroplane (1903).  
**Waterman**—Fountain pen.  
**Zeiss**—Lenses; Camera.

### Pioneers in Medical Inventions and Discoveries

**Banting**—Insulin (as a palliative for diabetes).  
**Barnard, Christian**—Replacing the human heart.  
**Brahmchari, U.M.**—Cure of Kala-a-zar fever.  
**Davy**—Isolation of metals by electricity; studied properties of chlorine.  
**Domagk**—Sulpha drugs as bactericides.  
**Eijkman**—Cause of Beri-Beri.  
**Finsen**—Discovered curative effect of ultra violet rays; photography.  
**Fleming, Alexander**—Penicillin (in 1929).  
**Harvey**—Circulation of blood.  
**Hahnemann**—Homoeopathy (founder).  
**Hopkins, Frederick Gowland**—Vitamin D.  
**Jenner**—Smallpox Vaccination.  
**Koch**—Tubercle Bacillus.  
**Lainnec**—Stethoscope.  
**Lister, Lord**—Antiseptic treatment.

**Pasteur, Louis**—Treatment of rabies; cure of hydrophobia.

**Ronald Ross**—Malaria Parasite.

**Salk, Jonas E.**—Anti-polio Vaccine.

**Simpson and Harrison**—Chloroform.

**Waksman**—Streptomycin.

## Discovery / Invention In Medical Science

SNo	Discovery / Invention	Year	Discoverer / Inventor	Country
1	Adrenaline	1894	Schafer and Oliver	Britain
2	Anesthesia, Local	1885	Koller	Austria
3	Anesthesia, Spinal	1898	Bier	Germany
4	Anti-toxins (Science of Immunity)	1890	Behring and Kitasato	Germany, Japan
5	Aspirin	1889	Dreser	Germany
6	Ayurveda	2000-1000 BC		India
7	Bacteria	1683	Leeuwenhock	Netherlands
8	Bacteriology	1872	Ferdinand Cohn	Germany
9	Biochemistry	1648	Jan Baptista Van Helmont	Belgium
10	Blood Plasma storage (Blood bank)	1940	Drew	U.S.A
11	Blood Transfusion	1625	Jean-Baptiste Denys	France
12	Cardiac Pacemaker	1932	A.S Hyman	U.S.A
13	CAT Scanner	1968	Godfrey Hounsfield	Britain
14	Chemotherapy	1493-1541	Paracelsus	Switzerland
15	Chloroform as anaesthetic	1847	James Simpson	Britain
16	Chloromycetin	1947	Burkholder	U.S.A
17	Cholera T.B germs	1877	Robert Koch	Germany
18	Circulation of blood	1628	William Harvey	Britain
19	Cryo-Surgery	1953	Henry Swan	U.S.A
20	Diphtheria germs	1883-84	Klebs and Loffler	Germany
21	Electro-Cardiograph	1903	Willem Einthoven	Netherlands
22	Electro-encephalogram	1929	Hand Berger	Germany
23	Embryology	1792-1896	Kari Ernest Van Baer	Estonia
24	Endocrinology	1902	Bayliss and Starling	Britain
25	First Test Tube Baby	1978	Steptoe and Edwards	Britain
26	Gene Therapy on humans	1980	Martin Clive	U.S.A
27	Genes associated with cancer	1982	Robert Weinberg and others	U.S.A
28	Heart Transplant Surgery	1967	Christian Barnard	S. Africa
29	Histology	1771-1802	Marie Bichat	France
30	Hypodermic syringe	1853	Alexander wood	Britain
31	Kidney Machine	1944	Kolf	Netherlands
32	Leprosy Bacillus	1873	Hansen	Norway
33	LSD (Lysergic acid diethylamide)	1943	Hoffman	Switzerland
34	Malaria Germs	1880	Laveran	France
35	Morphine	1805	Friderich Sertumer	Germany
36	Neurology	1758-1828	Franz Joseph Gall	Germany
37	Nuclear magnetic resonance imaging	1971	Raymond Damadian	U.S.A
38	Open Heart Surgery	1953	Walton Lillehel	U.S.A
39	Oral Contraceptive Pills	1955	Gregory Pincus, Rock	U.S.A
40	Penicillin	1928	Alexander Fleming	Britain
41	Physiology	1757-66	Albrecht Von Haller	Switzerland
42	Positron emission Tomography	1978	Louis Sokoloff	U.S.A

43	Rabies Vaccine	1860	Louis Pasteur	France
44	Recombinant-DNA technology	1972-73	Paul Berg, H.W. Boyer,S Cohen	U.S.A
45	Reserpine	1949	Jal Vakil	India
46	Rh-factor	1940	Karl Landsteiner	U.S.A
47	Serology	1884-1915	Paul Ehrlich	Germany
48	Sex hormones	1910	Eugen Steinach	Australia
49	Small Pox eradicated	1980	W.H.O Declaration	UN
50	Stethoscope	1819	Rene Laennec	France
51	Streptomycin	1944	Selman Waksman	U.S.A
52	Synthetic Antigens	1917	Landsteiner	U.S.A
53	Terramycin	1950	Finlay and Others	U.S.A
54	Thyroxin	1919	Edward Calvin-Kendall	U.S.A
55	Typhus Vaccine	1909	J. Nicolle	France
56	Vaccination	1796	Edward Jenner	Britain
57	Vaccine, Measles	1963	Enders	U.S.A
58	Vaccine, Meningitis	1987	Gardon, et al. Connaught Lab	U.S.A
59	Vaccine, Polio	1954	Jonas Salk	U.S.A
60	Vaccine, Polio-orai	1960	Albert Sabin	U.S.A
61	Vaccine, Rabies	1885	Louis Pasteur	France
62	Vaccine, Smallpox	1776	Jenner	Britain
63	Virology	1892	Ivanovski and Bajernick	USSR, Netherlands
64	Vitamin A	1913	Mc Collum and M. Davis	U.S.A
65	Vitamin B1	1936	Minot and Murphy	U.S.A
66	Vitamin C	1919	Froelich Holst	Norway
67	Vitamin D	1925	Mc Collum	U.S.A
68	Vitamin K	1938	Doisy Dam	U.S.A
69	Western Scientific Therapy	460-370 BC	Hippocrates	Greece
70	Yoga	200-100 BC	Patanjali	India



## Prominent Scientists

**Abdul Kalam, Dr A.P.J.:** is credited with advancement of missile technology in India. He was honoured with Bharat Ratna award on November 26, 1997. He is known as “father of India’s Missile Technology”. Elected 11th President of India.

**Alvares, Luis W.:** is an American physicist teaching at the University of California, Berkeley, U.S.A. He won the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1968 for an important breakthrough he made in elementary physics in 1960 when he discovered a new resonance particle—a discovery that shattered the then prevailing notions as to how matter was built.

**Anfinsen, Dr Christian B.:** of the U.S.A.’s National Institute of Health, Bethesda, Maryland was one of the three co-winners of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry, 1972.

**Archimedes:** Greek mathematician (born in Sicily) who lived about 250 B.C. is known for the discovery of the Archimedes’ principle viz., The volume of any insoluble solid can be found by noting its loss of weight when immersed in water. He is also credited with the invention of Archimedean Screw, a cylindrical device for raising water.

**Arrow, Kenneth, J.:** of Harvard University, U.S.A. is co-winner of the Nobel Prize for Economics, 1972 with Sir John Richard Hicks of Oxford University. The two men are known for their pioneering contributions to general economic equilibrium and welfare theories.

**Aryabhata:** (A.D. 476-520) after whom India’s first scientific satellite has been named, was a great Indian astronomer and mathematician. Among his important contributions are the recognition of the importance of the movement of the earth round the sun, determination of the physical parameters of various celestial bodies, such as diameter of the earth and the moon. He laid the foundations of algebra and was responsible for pointing out importance of “zero”.

**Avogadro, Amedeo:** (1776-1856) Italian physicist; founder of Avogadro’s hypothesis: “Equal volumes of all gases under similar conditions of temperature and pressure, contain equal number of molecules.” He also defined a molecule.

**Bardeen, Prof John:** of the University of Illinois (U.S.A.) is co-winner of the Nobel Prize for Physics, 1972 (with Prof Leon N. Cooper and Prof John Robert Schrieffer) for researches into the “theory of super-conductivity” usually called the BCS theory.

**Barnard, Christian:** South African surgeon who shot into world news in December 1967 when he completed the first heart transplant operation on Louis Washkansky.

**Beadle, Dr G.:** American scientist awarded Nobel Prize for medicine in 1958 for his work concerning the actual basis of heredity—the way in which characteristics are transmitted from one generation to another.

**Becquerel, Henri:** (1852-1908) French physicist known for his discovery in 1896 of Becquerel rays, the first indications of radio-activity; these rays were later named gamma rays. He shared Nobel Prize for Physics with the Curies in 1903.

**Berzelius, J.J:** (1779-1848) Swedish Chemist, known for introduction of chemical shorthand symbols and atomic weights.

**Bessemer, Sir Henry:** (1813-1898) English engineer. He invented the process for the manufacture of steel known after his name.

**Bhabha, Dr H.J.:** (1909-66) Indian scientist. He published important papers on Cosmic Rays and Quantum Theory. He was professor at the Indian Science Institute, Bangalore; Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission; Director, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research; President, Indian Science Congress in 1951 and presided at the Atoms for Peace Conference held at Geneva in 1956. He had many significant researches in structure of atom and contributed largely to the setting up of atomic reactors at Trombay (Mumbai).

**Bhagvantam, Dr S.:** is an eminent Indian scientist who has made a rich contribution to research in radio astronomy and cosmic rays. He has published more than 150 research papers and several books. He retired in October 1969 as the Scientific Adviser to the Ministry of Defence, and Director General of the Defence Research Development Organisation. He is an old-time associate of Sir C.V. Raman.

**Bhaskaracharya:** Born in A.D. 1114, he was almost the last great Hindu mathematician and astronomer until modern times. He wrote Sidhanta-Siromani in 1150 which consisted of two mathematical and two astronomical parts. Bhaskara anticipated the modern theory on the convention of signs (minus by minus makes plus, minus by plus makes minus). He also anticipated Kepler's method for determining the surface and volume of sphere.

**Bhatnagar, Dr Shanti Swarup:** (1895-1955) great Indian scientist. He was Director of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (C.S.I.R.). A chain of National Laboratories has been established in the country due to his able organisation and unbounded energy.

**Bohr, Neils:** (born 1885) Danish Physicist. He was awarded Nobel Prize for Physics in 1922. He greatly extended the theory of atomic structure of devising an atomic model in 1913 and evolving theory of nuclear structure; assisted America in atom bomb research.

**Borlaug, Norman Ernest:** American agricultural scientist and winner of the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1970. He was one of those who laid the groundwork of the Green Revolution.

**Bose, Sir J.C.:** (1858-1937) Eminent Indian physicist and Botanist; founder of Bose Research Institute, Calcutta. Inventor of crescograph which is used to magnify movements made by plants.

Bose, S.N.: Eminent Indian scientist who won fame by expounding the Bose-Einstein theory, which is concerned in detection of a group of nuclear particles—named after him 'Boson' in recognition of his contribution to the subject; contributed to Plank's law. Professor of physics, Calcutta University; nominated member to the Council of States. Awarded Padma Vibhushan in 1954. He died on February 4, 1974.

**Boyle, Robert:** (1627-1691) Irish natural philosopher; one of the founders of modern chemistry and Boyle's law: "Temperature remaining constant, volume of a given mass of gas varies inversely as its pressure."

**Bragg, Sir William:** (1862-1942) British physicist known for researches on the behaviour of crystals with regard to X-rays incident upon them. Author of the book: "Atomic Structure of Minerals".

**Cavendish, Henry:** (1731-1810) English physicist and chemist; he discovered properties of hydrogen in 1766 and identified it as an element.

**Chadwick, Sir James:** (1891-1974) British physicist. He discovered the particle in an atomic nucleus which became known as the neutron, because it has no electric charge.

**Chandrasekhar, Dr Subramanian:** He was a scientist of Indian origin settled in the U.S.A., who shared the

1983 Nobel Prize for physics with an American, William Fowler. He was one of the most outstanding astrophysicist of the world.

His theory of stellar evolution—the birth and death of stars—is more than 30 years old. When he first propounded his finding that old stars just collapse and disappear in the light of denser stars of low light, the world's top-flight astronomers laughed at him and rejected his theory. A disappointed Dr Chandrasekhar left Trinity, Cambridge, to pursue his research in the University of Chicago. Over the next two decades the “Chandrasekhar Limit” became an intrinsic part of text-books on advanced astrophysics. Global recognition and awards poured in, and the 1983 Nobel Prize tops a remarkable career spanning almost half a century.

**Charak:** (c.A.D. 80-180) was a court physician to Kushan king Kanishka. His writings are invaluable in the study of Hindu medicine.

**Charles, Jacques Alexander Cesar:** (1746-1823) a French scientist of great repute. He was the first to make a balloon ascension with hydrogen. He is known for his work on the effect of temperature on the volume of gases.

**Clarke, Arthur C.:** He is known for his suggestion of the concept of Geostationary Orbit.

**Clark Maxwell, James:** (1831-79) British physicist. His theoretical work prepared the way for wireless telegraphy and telephony. His principal works include: Perception of Colour, Colour Blindness, Theory of Heat, Electricity and Magnetism, Matter and Motion.

**Claude, Albert:** is a biologist of Luxembourg who shared the 1974 Nobel Prize in Medicine. His field of research relates to causes and treatment of cancer.

**Columbus, Christopher:** (1446-1506) A well-known Italian navigator set out on his first voyage in 1492; he discovered West Indies Islands, Cuba and Bahamas; he also discovered South America in 1498.

**Cooper, Leon N.:** Of the Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island (U.S.A.) was one of the three co-winners of the Nobel Prize in Physics, 1972 for researches into the theory of super-conductivity.

**Copernicus:** (1413-1543) A prominent astronomer of Poland who discovered the “Solar System”.

**Cornforth, John Warcup:** co-winner of the 1975 Nobel Prize in Chemistry is a deaf professor. He is an Australian living in England. His chief distinction is mapping out the formation of cholesterol which he calls “a great discovery” and contains the key to, for instance, sex hormones.

**Curie, Madame Marie:** (1867-1934) Polish physicist and chemist; famous for her discovery of radium was awarded Nobel Prize in chemistry in 1911 and shared Nobel Prize in physics in 1903 with her husband and Becquerel.

**Dalton, John:** (1766-1844) British scientist. He was founder of the Atomic Theory and law of Multiple Proportions.

**Darwin, Charles:** (1809-82) was the British scientist who discovered the principle of natural selection. His famous work is “The Origin of Species”.

**Davy, Sir Humphrey:** (1771-1829) British chemist. First to apply electric current for the isolation of metals. Studied anaesthetic action of nitrous oxide, properties of chlorine and alkali metals.

**Debreu, Gerard:** Gerard Debreu of the University of California at Berkeley, who has been awarded the 1983

Nobel memorial prize in economics is known for his research on market equilibrium in which he “incorporated new analytical methods into economic theory”.

Mr Debreu has expanded on a mathematical model designed by the two men in the early 1950s that confirmed the logic of Adam Smith’s “theory of general equilibrium” in which prices supply and demand tend to reach a balance within a free market economy.

**Delbrueck, Dr Max:** is a German-born American doctor working at the California Institute of Technology. He was one of the three American co-winners of the Nobel Prize for Medicine, 1969 for discoveries in molecular genetics.

**De Vries:** is known for Mutation theory.

**Dhanvantri:** a great physician during the reign of Chandragupta Vikramaditya (375-413 A.D.).

**Dhawan, Prof Satish:** He is former Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). Under his dynamic leadership India entered Space Age by launching “Aryabhata”, a scientific satellite, into space on April 19, 1975.

**Edelman, Dr Gerald Maurice:** of U.S.A. is co-winner of the Nobel Prize for Medicine, 1972. He is known for researches into the chemical structure of blood-proteins or antibodies which shield the human body against infection. He shared the prize with Dr Rodney Robert Porter of Oxford. The two Nobel-laureates were able to break the giant molecules formed by antibodies into their component sections.

**Edison, Thomas Alva:** (1847-1931) American inventor of Dutch-Scottish parentage. He started life as a newsboy and then a telegraph operator. His inventions include: phonograph, the incandescent lamp, a new type of storage battery, an early form of cinematography etc.

**Einstein, Prof Albert:** (1879-1955) was German-Swiss world-famous scientist known for his theory of relativity. He was awarded Nobel Prize for his work on photoelectric effect.

**Faraday, Michael:** (1791-1867) An eminent English scientist; showed great prominence in the field of electromagnetism; discovered the laws of electrolysis and wrote a number of useful books on the subject.

**Fleming, Alexander:** (1881-1955) British bacteriologist. His notable discovery was lysozyme (1922), followed by penicillin (1929)—an antibiotic drug.

**Fleming, Sir John Ambrose:** (1849-1945) British physicist and engineer who was pioneer in the development of the telephone, electric light and radio.

**Fraunhofer:** German physicist. He gained prominence on the researches of ‘Light’ while performing spectrum-analysis of Sunlight; he discovered the spectrum to be crossed with some indifferent black lines. And the lines are so named as Fraunhofer Lines.

**Freud, Sigmund:** (1856-1939) originator of psycho-analysis, born of Jewish parents. Works: The Interpretation of Dreams; The Psychopathology of Every-day Life; The Ego and the Id; Civilization and Its Discontents.

**Gabor, Dr Dennis:** Who won the 1971 Nobel Prize award for Physics is a 71-year old British electrical engineer working as a scientist in the U.S.A. He was cited for his “invention in development of the holographic method”—three dimensional photography. Dr Gabor was the 16th Briton to have won the Nobel Prize in Physics. He was born and educated in Hungary. He later worked as research engineer in Germany and came to

join the staff of the Imperial College in London in 1949. He invented holography in the late forties. But the science became fully developed with the coming of the laser in 1960. A holographic image is so lifelike that a viewer can see around things in a holograph by moving his head just as he looks around the real object.

**Galileo:** (1564-1642) Italian scientist. He was professor of mathematics. His view that all falling bodies, great or small, descend with equal velocity, made him unpopular with the orthodox scientists. He improved telescope and with it was the first man to see the satellites of Jupiter.

**Gell-Mann, Prof Murray:** was the recipient of the 1969 Nobel Prize for Physics. He is a teacher in the California Institute of Technology. Born in New York in 1929, Prof Gell-Mann has been the leading theorist in elementary particle research for the last 15 years. He was the 28th American to be awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics in which the U.S.A. now leads. The Nobel Prize was given to him for “his classification of elementary particles and their interactions”.

**Goddard, Robert H.:** was an American who mentioned the possibility of shooting a rocket to the moon in a paper entitled “A Method of Reaching Extreme Altitudes” published by him in 1919. By 1926 he had put some of his ideas into practice. He is looked upon as one of the pioneers of space research.

**Graham, Thomas:** (1805-1914) Scottish chemist called the “father of colloidal chemistry”. He did remarkable work on diffusion of substances in solution.

**Heisenberg:** is known for his theory of Uncertainty Principle.

**Hahn, Otto:** was a German pioneer of nuclear research. He won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1944. It was Hahn who had proved in 1938 that atomic fission can be achieved by bombarding uranium with neutrons. The discovery revolutionised atomic science.

**Hall, Charles Martin:** (1863-1914) American chemist who discovered the modern method of extraction of aluminium by electrolysis of bauxite in 1886.

**Harvey, William:** (1578-1675) English physician who discovered the circulation of blood.

**Herzberg, Dr Gerhard:** has been awarded the 1971 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, for his researches in atomic and molecular structures, particularly free radicals. He is the first Canadian to win a Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

**Holley, Robert:** Co-winner of the Nobel Prize for Medicine, 1968, belongs to Cornell. His researches into the genetic code and its function in building protein led to the discovery of the complete structure of a transfer RNA molecule and the way it works.

**Hopkins, Sir Frederick Gowland:** He was an eminent English biochemist famous for his important work on proteins and vitamins. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in medicine in 1929 for the discovery of Vitamin D.

**Hoyle, Fred:** is a British scientist and science-fiction writer who won the £ 1,000 Kalinga Prize in 1968.

**Jenner, Edward:** (1749-1823) Eminent English physician who discovered the vaccination system of alleviating small pox.

**Josephson, Dr Brian:** is a British scientist who co-shared the 1973 Nobel Prize for physics for “his theoretical predictions of the properties of a super-current through a tunnel barrier, in particular those phenomena which are generally known as Josephson effects”.



**Joshi, Prof S.S.:** He has done commendable work on physical and chemical reactions under electric discharge on active nitrogen; colloids; hydrogen peroxide; permanganates and a phenomenon called “Joshi Effect”.

**Joule, James Prescott:** (1874-1937) a great English physicist who first demonstrated that mechanical energy can be converted into heat.

**Kepler, Johannes:** (1571-1630) German astronomer. He discovered 3 laws of planetary motion that bear his name viz., (1) The orbit of each planet is an ellipse with the sun at one of the foci; (2) the Radius vector of each planet describes equal areas in equal times; (3) The squares of the periods of the planets are proportional to the cubes of their mean distances from the sun.

Kepler had evolved a set of laws governing man in space with rare prescience. In a kind of allegory, he referred to the dangers of solar radiation, the need to overcome gravitational resistance, gravitational capture of spacecraft by the moon etc. What he wrote nearly 360 years ago was, however, little understood and his family was persecuted for it. His mother had to die in jail having been condemned as a witch.

**Khorana Hargobind:** who shared with two others the 1968 Nobel Prize for Medicine is an Indian by birth and an American by domicile. He deciphered the genetic code and later created an artificial gene.

**Krishnan, Dr K.S.:** (born 1898) collaborated with Sir C.V. Raman in the discovery of “Raman Effect”. President, Indian Science Congress, 1949; delegate to several international scientific conferences; Director, National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi.

**Lavoisier, A.L.:** (1743-1794) French chemist; established law of Indestructibility of Matter, Composition of Water and Air.

**Lister, Joseph:** (1827-1912) British surgeon. He was the first to use antiseptic treatment for wounds; introduced antiseptic surgery.

**Lodge, Sir Oliver Joseph:** (1851-1940) British physicist. He is chiefly known for his researches on radiation, and the relation between matter and ether.

**Lovell, Sir Bernard:** He is professor of Radio-Astronomy in the University of Manchester and is also Director of the Jodrell Bank Observatory. He remains very much in the news for tracking space-ships.

**Lysenko:** Author of Agro-biology, Lysenko gained fame as a Soviet geneticist. In 1948, he declared the Mendelian theory obsolete and erroneous.

**Marconi:** (1873-1937) Italian scientist; pioneer in wireless telegraphy and radio.

**Max Planck:** He was a German theoretical physicist who formulated the quantum theory which revolutionized physics. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1918.

**Mendel, Johann Gregory:** (1822-84) Austrian monk and naturalist whose discovery of certain principles of inheritance (heredity) is of deep significance in the study of biology.

**Mendeleef, D.I.:** (1834-1901) a Russian chemist, founder of periodic law and famous for the development of petroleum and other industries in Russia.

**Meyer, Victor:** (1848-1897) discovered a method to determine the molecular weights of volatile substances.

**Morley, Edward William:** (1818-1923) American chemist and physicist best known for his work in determining the composition of water by weight.

**Moseley, Henry G.:** (1887-1915) British physicist who did valuable work on atomic structure, and in 1913, devised the series of atomic numbers.

**Nagarjuna:** the renowned chemist of Buddhist era whose works are mostly preserved in China and Tibet. A great Philosopher and Chemist. He makes a mention of crucibles, distillation stills, sublimation, colouring process, alloying of metals, extraction of copper and use of many metallic oxides in medicines. About chemistry he said, "As long as the science of chemistry prevails, let hunger, pain and poverty not torment men."

**Nag-Chowdhury, B.D.:** an eminent Indian nuclear physicist, known all over the world.

**Narlikar, J.V.:** Indian scientist; co-author of Hoyle-Narlikar Theory of continuous creation. The theory of which he is co-author has been hailed as supplying some important missing links in Einstein's theory of Relativity. The new theory of gravitation propounded by both the scientists, Narlikar and Hoyle, shows that gravitation is always attractive and there is no gravitational repulsions.

**Newton, Sir Isaac:** (1642-1727) was the British natural philosopher. He discovered binomial theorem; the differential and integral calculus. He expounded the universal law of gravitation. He is author of Principia Mathematica.

**Nirenberg, Dr Marshall:** is a U.S. molecular biologist who shared the 1968 Nobel Prize for Medicine with Dr Robert Holley and Dr Hargobind Khorana. Nirenberg is the author of a very simple but ingenious experiment which helped a great deal in clarifying the general character of the genetic code.

**Oberth, Hermann:** is a Rumanian-German Professor who is credited with establishing the experimental basis of modern rocketry. In 1923, the publication of his book, "The Rocket into Interplanetary Space" aroused great interest in space travel.

**Ohm, George Simon:** (1787-1854) physicist and mathematician; discovered the law known as Ohm's Law.

**Onsager, Lars:** is a U.S. Professor who became a Nobel laureate in 1968 by winning the prize for Chemistry "for the discovery of the reciprocal relations bearing his name which are fundamental for the thermo-dynamics of irreversible processes".

**Paracelsus:** (1493-1541) a Swiss mystic and chemist. He was the first to employ laudanum and antimony in Pharmacy.

**Parson, Sir Charles:** (1854-1931) British engineer; inventor of Parson steam turbine.

**Pasteur, Louis:** (1822-95) He was a French chemist who discovered the causes of fermentation in alcohol and milk and founded the Pasteur Institute in 1888. He made researches in silkworm disease, anthrax, and hydrophobia.

**Pauling, Linus:** American bio-chemist. He applied the quantum theory to chemistry and was awarded Nobel Prize (1954) for his contribution to the electrochemical theory of valency.

**Porter, Dr Rodney Robert:** is Professor of Biochemistry in Oxford University. Dr Porter is known for his

discoveries relating to the chemical structure of antibodies.

**Priestley, Joseph:** (1733-1804) British Chemist; discovered oxygen and methods of collecting gases.

**Pythagoras:** is known as the father of Geometry.

**Rainwater, James:** of the U.S.A. who co-shared the 1975 Nobel Prize in Physics is known for the development of the theory that atomic nucleus is not always spherical but can also be egg-shaped which has no immediate practical meaning but is extremely essential to scientists.

**Ramanna, Dr Raja:** former Director of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre at Trombay. He was one of the Indian scientists associated with staging India's first nuclear blast at Pokhran on May 18, 1974.

**Raman, Sir C.V.:** (1888-1970) Eminent Indian Scientist (F.R.S.) National Professor of Physics and founder Director of Raman Research Institute, Bangalore. He was awarded Nobel Prize for his discovery of 'Raman Effect' (Feb 28, 1928). His work on study of crystal structure is of unique importance. Feb 28 is celebrated every year as National Science Day.

**Ramanujan, Srinivas:** (1887-1920) Indian mathematician who contributed to the theory of numbers, theory of partitions, and the theory of continued fractions.

**Ramsay, Sir William:** (1852-1916) English chemist who discovered helium and later on neon, argon in collaboration with Rayleigh and others. He was awarded Nobel Prize in 1904.

Rao, Prof U. Ramachandra: is the Director of Indian Scientific Satellite Project (ISSP) at Peenya near Bangalore.

**Ray, Sir P.C.:** (1861-1944) founder of Indian Chemical Society and Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceutical Works Ltd., and author of 'Hindu Chemistry'. His work about nitrous acid and its salts deserves special mention.

**Richards, T.W.:** He was Prof of Chemistry at Harvard University in U.S.A. He did notable work in the accurate determination of atomic weights and was awarded Nobel Prize in 1916.

**Roger Bacon:** (1214-1294) He was inventor of Gun Powder and founder of experimental science; man of remarkable gifts and inventive power.

**Rontgen, W. Konrad:** (1845-1923) German physicist. He discovered X-rays, also called Rontgen rays. He was awarded the first Nobel Prize in 1901 for discovery of X-Rays.

**Ross, Ronald:** (1857-1932) leading British physician who discovered the cause of Malaria; awarded Nobel Prize for medicine in 1902.

**Rutherford, Daniel:** (1749-1819) a Scottish scientist who is given the credit for the discovery of nitrogen.

**Rutherford, Lord:** (1871-1937) won a Nobel Prize for his work on structure of atom and radio-activity.

**Ryle, Sir Martin:** of the U.K. who shared the 1974 Nobel Prize in Physics is known for the development of "aperture synthesis" technique designed to identify stellar objects through radio signals.

**Saha, Dr Meghnad:** (1893-1956) late Palit Prof of Physics, University College of Science and Technology,



Calcutta University—well known for his researches in nuclear physics, cosmic rays, spectrum analysis and other branches of theoretical physics.

**Sanger, Dr Frederik:** British scientist awarded Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1958 for his work in determining the composition of the insulin molecule. By his discovery he has put science a step forward towards knowing how disease attacks the human body. In 1980, he became only the fourth person ever to be awarded a second Nobel Prize.

**Sarabhai, Dr Vikram A.:** former Chairman of India's Atomic Energy Commission and the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) died on December 30, 1971. Dr Sarabhai was an eminent physicist mainly interested in the astrophysical implications of Cosmic Ray Time Variations.

**Sen, P.K. (Dr):** is the Indian surgeon who performed Asia's first heart transplant operation in Mumbai.

**Simpson, Sir James Young:** (1811-70) British physicist who was largely instrumental in the introduction of chloroform as an anaesthetic in 1847.

**Soddy, Frederick:** (1877-1956) British physical chemist. He was a pioneer of research into atomic disintegration. He coined the term "isotopes"; did classic work on radioactivity.

**Solvay, Earnest:** (1838-1922) Belgian chemist known for devising a process known after his name for manufacture of sodium carbonate.

**Susruta:** was a fourth century Hindu surgeon and physician. He wrote an important book on medicine and also a thesis on the medical properties of garlic.

**Sutherland, Dr Earl W.:** was the recipient of the Nobel Prize for Medicine, 1971. He is credited with the discovery that the hormones in the human body produce another substance known as cyclic A.M.P., which activates them and controls the body's cells. He has demonstrated that changes in the level of cyclic A.M.P. in the body can influence its disease-resisting capacity. This discovery opens up new vistas for the development of drugs that can treat diseases which have so far been regarded as incurable.

**Teller, Edward (Dr):** is a U.S. nuclear scientist who has played a major role in developing the hydrogen bomb. He is in fact known as the "father of the H-bomb".

**Thomson, Sir J.J.:** (1856-1940) British physicist. He discovered the electron which inaugurated the electrical theory of the atom. He is regarded as the founder of modern physics.

**Tsiolkovsky:** was a Russian teacher who in 1903 published a treatise presenting remarkably accurate calculations on rocket dynamics and space-travel. He is looked upon as the earliest among the pioneers who laid the foundations of space exploration. The Russians call him the "Father of Rocketry".

**Varahmihira:** (505-587) was a distinguished Indian astronomer, mathematician and philosopher. He was one of the nine gems of the court of king Vikramaditya.

**Verne, Jules:** (1828-1905) French science-fiction writer was author of "From the Earth to the Moon" published in 1865. The book carried a more or less accurate prediction of the launching and flight of Apollo-8.

**Volta, A.:** (1745-1827) Italian physicist and pioneer of electrical science; invented voltaic pile, the electrophorus and electroscope. The volt is named after him.

**Voronoff, S.:** Russian scientist best known for his method of preventing or delaying senility by grafting healthy animal glands, into the human body.

**Watson and Crick:** known for DNA double helix.

**Watson-Watt, Sir Robert:** British physicist. He developed radar.

**Watt, James:** (1736-1819) was Scottish engineer. He invented steam engine.

**Yukawa, Dr H.:** (born 1907) predicted a new particle meson which holds the protons and neutrons of the atomic nucleus. He is the first Japanese to win the Nobel Prize in Physics (1949).

## **Books and Authors**

<b>Books</b>	<b>Authors</b>
A Bend in the river	V.S. Naipaul
A Brush with Life	Satish Gujral
A Conceptual Encyclopaedia of Guru Granth Sahib	S.S. Kohli
A Foreign Policy for India	I.K. Gujral
A Fortune Teller Told Me	Tiziano Terzani
A Gender Lens on Social Psychology	Judith A Howard and Jocelyn A.Hollander
A General and His Army	Georgy Vladimov
A Himalayan Love Story	Namita Gokhale
A Last Leap South	Vladimir Zhirinovsky
A Nation Flawed-Lesson from Indian History	P.N. Chopra
A Peep into the Past	Vasant Navrekar
A Possible India	Partha Chatterjee
A Psychoanalysis of the Prophets	Abdulla Kamal
A Reveolutionary Life	Laxmi Sehgal
A Secular Agenda	Arun Shourie
A Simple Path	Lucinda Vardey
A Suitable Boy	Vikram Seth
A Tale of Two Gardens	Octavio Paz
A Tribute to People's Princess: Diana	Peter Donelli
A Tryst With Destiny	Stanley Wolfer
Abbot	Walter Scott
Absalom, Absalom	William Faulkner
Absalom and Achitophel	John Dryden
Acoession to Extinction	D.R. Mankekar
Across Borders, Fifty-years of India's Foreign Policy	J.N. Dixit
Adam Bede	George Eliot
Adhe Adhure	Mohan Rakesh
Adonis	P.B. Shelley
Adrain Mole-The Wilderness Years	Sue Townsend
Adventures of Huckleberry Finn	Mark Twain
Adventures of Robinson Crusoe	Daniel Defoe
Adventures of Sally	P.G. Wodehouse
Adventures of Sherlock Holmes	Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
Adventures of Tom Sawyer	Mark Twain
Adversary in the House	Irving Stone

Advice and Consent	Allen Drury
Aeneid	Virgil
Affairs	C.P.Snow
Affluent Society	J.K.Galbraith
Afghanistan: Mullah, Marx and Mujahid	R.H. Magnus & Eden Naby
Africa's Challenge to America	Chester Bowles
After All These Years	Susan Issacs
After the Dark Night	S.M. Ali
Against the Grain	Boris Yeltsin
Age of Reason	Jean Paul Sartre
Agni Pariksha	Acharya Tulsi
Agni Veena	Kazi Nazrul Islam
Agony and the Ecstasy	Irving Stone
Ain-i-Akbari	Abul Fazal
Airport	Arthur Hailey
Ajatshatru	Jai Shankar Prasad
Akbarnama	Abul Fazal
Alaska Unbound	James Michener
Alchemist	Ben Johnson
Alexander Quartet	Lawrence Durrell
Alexander the Great	John Gunther
Alice in Wonderland	Lewis Carroll
Alien Nation	Peter Brimelow
All for Love	John Dryden
All is Well that Ends Well	William Shakespeare
All Quiet on the Western Front	Erich Maria Remarque
All the King's Men	Robert Penn Warren
All the President's Men	Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward
All things Bright and Beautiful	James Herriot
All Under Heaven	Pearl S.Buck
Along the Road	Aldous Huxley
Altered States	Anita Brookner
Amar Kosh	Amar Singh
Ambassador's Journal	J.K. Galbraith
Ambassador's Report	Chester Bowles
Amelia	Henry Fielding
American Capitalism	J.K. Galbraith
An American Dilemma	Gunnar Myrdal

An American Tragedy	Theodore Dreiser
An Apology for Idlers	Robert Louis Stevenson
An Autobiography	Jawaharlal Nehru
An Eye to China	David Selbourne
An idealist View of Life	Dr.S. Radhakrishnan
Anandmath	Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
Anatomy of a Flawed inheritance	J.N. Dixit
Ancient Evenings	Norman Mailer
Ancient Mariner	Samuel Taylor Coleridge
And Quiet Flows the Don	Mikhali Sholokhov
And Through the Looking Glass	Lewis Carroll
Androcles and the Lion	George Bernard Shaw
Angry Letters	Willem Doevenduin
Anguish of Deprived	Lakshmidhar Mishra
Animal Farm	George Orwell
Anna Karenina	Count Leo Tolstoy
Another Life	Derek Walcott
Answer to History	Mohammad Reza Pahlavi
Antic Hay	Aldous Huxley
Antony and Cleopatra	William Shakespeare
Ape and Essence	Aldous Huxley
Apple Cart	George Bernad Shaw
Arabian Nights	Sir Richard Burton
Area of Darkness	V.S. Naipaul
Arion and the Dolphin	Vikram Seth
Arms and the Man	George Bernard Shaw
Around the World in Eighty Days	Jules verne
Arrangement	Elia Kazan
Arrival and Departure	Arthur Koestler
Arrow in the Blue	Arthur Koestler
Arrow of Good	Joseph Conrad
Arrowsmith	Sinclair Lewis
Arthashastra	Kautilya
As I Lay Dying	William Faulkner
As You Like It	William Shakespeare
Ascent of the Everest	Sir John Hunt
Ashtadhyayi	Panini
Asia and Western Dominance	K.M. Panikkar

Asian Drama	Gunnar Myrdal
Aspects of the Novel	E.M. Forster
Assassination of a Prime Minister	S.Anandram
Assignment Colombo	J.N. Dixit
Assignment India	Christopher Thomas
Athenian Constitution	Aristotle
Atoms of Hope	Mohan Sundara Rajan
August 1914	Alexander Solzhenitsyn
August Coup	Mikhail S. Gorbachev
Author's Farce	Henry Fielding
Autobiography of an Unknown Indian	Nirad C. Chaudhuri
Autumn Leaves	O.Pulla Reddi
Avanti Sundari	Dandin
Babbit	Sinclair Lewis
Baburnama	Babur
Baby and Child	Penelope Leach
Back to Methuselah	G.B. Shaw
Backward Place	Ruth Praver Jhabwala
Bandicoot Run	Manohar Malgonkar
Bang-i-Dara	Mohammad Iqbal
Bangla Desh-The Unfinished Revolution	Lawrence Lifschultz
Banyan Tree	Hugh Tinker
Beach Boy	Ardesher Vakil
Beast and Man	Murry Midgley
Beating the Street	Peter Lynch
Beginning of the Beginning	Acharya Rajneesh
Beloved	Toni Morrison
Ben Hur	Lewis Wallace
Bend in the Ganges	Manohar Malgonkar
Bermuda Triangle	Charles Berlitz
Berry Patches	Yevgeny Yevtushenko
Best and the Brightest	David Halberstan
Betrayal of Pearl Harbour	James Rusbridger and Eric Nave
Between Hope and History	Bill Clinton
Between Hope and History	Bill Clinton
Between the Lines	Kuldip Nayar
Bewildered India-Identity, Pluralism, Discord	Rasheedud-din Khan
Beyond Boundaries: A Memoire	Swaraj Paul

Beyond the Horizon	Eugene O'Neill
Beyond Modernisation, Beyond Self	Sisir Kumar Ghose
Beyond Peace	Richard Nixon
Bhagwat Gita	Veda Vyas
Bharal Aur Europe	Nirmal Verma
Bharat Bharati	Maithili Sharan Gupta
Bharaitya Parampara Ke Mool Swar	Govind Chandra Pande
Big Fisherman	Lloyd C. Douglas
Big Money	P.G. Wodehouse
Bill the Conqueror	P.G. Wodehouse
Billy	Albert French
Biographia Literaria	Samuel Taylor coleridge
Birds and Beasts	Mark Twain
Birth and Death of The Sun	George Gamow
Birth and Evolution of the soul	Annie Besant
Birth of Europe	Robert, S. Lopez
Bisarjan	R.N. Tagore
Bitter Sweet	Noel Coward
Black Arrow	Robert Louis Stevenson
Black Diaspora	Ronald Segal
Black Holes and Baby Universes	Stephen Hawking
Black Sheep	Honore de Balzac
Black Tulip	Alexander Dumas
Bleak House	Charles Dickens
Blind Ambitions	John Dean
Blind Beauty	Boris Pasternak
Blind Men of Hindoostan-into-Pak Nuclear War	Gen. Krishnaswamy Sundarji
Bliss was it in that Dawn	Minoo Masani
Bloodline	Sidney Sheldon
Blood Sport	James Stewart
Blue Bird	Maurice Macterlink
Bofors: The Ambassador's Evidence	B.M. Oza
Bone People	Keri Hulme
Book of the Sword	Sir Richard Burton
Borders & Boundaries: Women in India's Partition	Ritu Menon & Kamla Bhasin
Born Free	Joy Adamson
Bostaan	Sheikh Saadi
Bread, Beauty and Revolution	Khwaja Ahmed Abbas

Breaking the Silence	Anees Jung
Breakthrough	Gen.Moshe Dayan
Bride for the Sahib and Other Stories	Khushwant Singh
Bridge's Book of Beauty	Mulk Raj Anand
Bridges of Madison Country	R.J. Waller
Brif History of Time	Stephen Hawking
Brishbikkha	Bankim Chandra Chatterji
Britain's True History	Prem Bhatia
Broken Wings	Sarojini Naidu
Brothers Karamazhov	Fyodor Dostoevski
Bubble	Mulk Raj Anand
Buddha Charitam	Ashvaghosha
Bunch of Old Letters	Jawaharlal Nehru
Bureaucrazy	M.K. Kaw
Butterfield 8	John O'Hara
By God's Decree	Kapil Dev
By Love Possessed	James Gould Cozzens
Byzantium	W.B. Yeats
Caesar and Cleopatra	G.B. Shaw
Call the Briefing	Martin Fitzwater
Cancer Ward	Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn
Canterbury Tales	G.Chaucer
Canvass of Life	Sheila Gujral
Caravans	James A. Michener
Cardinal	Henry M. Robinson
Castle	Franz Kafka
Catch-22	Joseph Heller
Catcher in the Rye	J.D. Salinger
Centennial	James Michener
Chance	Joseph Conrad
Chandalika	Rabindranath Tagore
Chemmeen	Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai
Cherry Orchard	Anton Chekhov
Chidambara	Sumitranandan Pant
Chikaveera Rajendra	Masti Venkatesh Iyengar
Child Who Never Grew	Pearl S. Buck
Childe Harold's Pilgrimage	George Byron
Childhood	Maxim Gorky



Children of Gabelawi	Naquib Mahfouz
Children of the Sun	Maxim Gorky
China Passage	J.K. Galbraith
China-Past and Present	Pearl S. Buck
China's Watergate	Leo Goodstadt
Chinese Betrayal	B.N. Mullick
Chitra	Rabindranath Tagore
Choma's Drum	K. Shivaram Karanath
Christabel	Samuel Taylor Coleridge
Christmas Tales	Charles Dickens
Chronicle of a Death Foretold	Gabriel Garcia Marquez
Chithirappaavai	P.V. Akilandam
City of Joy	Dominique Lapierre
City of Saints	Sir Richard Burton
Class	Erich Segal
Climate of Treason	Andrew Boyle
Clockwork Orange	Anthony Burgess
Clown	Heinrich Boll
Cocktail Party	T.S. Eliot
Colonel Sun	Kingsley Amis
Comedy of Errors	William Shakespeare
Common Sense	Thomas Paine
Communist Manifesto	Karl Marx
Confessions	J.J.Rousseau
Confessions of a Lover	Mulk Raj Anand
Comus	John Milton
Confessions of an Inquiring Spirit	S.T. Coleridge
Confessions of an English Opium Eater,	Thomas De Quincy
Confidential Clerk	T.S. Eliot
Confrontation with Pakistan	Gen. B.M. Kaul
Conquest of Happiness	Bertrand Russell
Conquest of Self	Mahatma Gandhi
Conservationist	Nadine Gordimer
Continent of Circle	Nirad C.Chaudhuri
Coolie	Mulk Raj Anand
Count of Monte Cristo	Alexander Dumas
Coup	John Updike
Court Dancer	Rabindranath Tagore

Coverly Papers	Joseph Addison
Cranford	Mrs. Gaskell
Creation	Gore Vidal
Crescent Moon	Rabindranath Tagore
Crescent Over Kashmir	Anil Maheshwari
Cricket on the Hearth	Charles Dickens
Crime and Punishment	Fyodor Dostoevsky
Crisis in India	Ronald Segal
Crisis into Chaos	E.M.S. Namboodiripad
Critical Mass	William E. Burrows
Critique of Pure Reason	Immanuel Kant
Crossing in River	Caryl Phillips
Crossing the Sacred Line-Women's Search for Political Power	Abhilasha & Sabina Kidwai
Crossing the Threshold of Hope	Pope John Paul II
Crown and the Loincloth	Chaman Nahal
Crown of Wild Olive	John Ruskin
Cry, My Beloved Country	Alan Patan
Cuckold	Kiran Nagar Kar
Culture and Anarchy	Matthew Arnold
Culture in the Vanity Bag	Nirad C. Chaudhuri
Curtain Raisers	K. Natwar Singh
Damsel in Distress	P.G. Wodehouse
Dancing with the Devil	Rod Barker
Dangerous Plaque	Daniel Patrick Moynihan
Dangerous Summer	Ernest Hemingway
Dangling Man	Saul Bellow
Daniel Deronda	George Eliot
Dark Room	R.K. Narayan
Dark Debts	Karen Hall
Dark Home Coming	Eric Lustbader
Dark Side of Camelot	Seymour Hersh
Darkness at Noon	Arthur Koestler
Das Kapital	Karl Marx
Dashkumar Charitam	Dandi
Daughter of the East	Benazir Bhutto
David Copperfield	Charles Dickens
Day in Shadow	Nayantara Sehgal

Day of the Jackal	Frederick Forsyth
Days of Grace	Arthur Ashe & Arnold Rampersad
Days of his Grace	Eyvind Johnson
Days of My Yers	H.P. Nanda
De Profundis	Oscar Wilde
Dean's December	Saul Bellow
Death and After	Annie Besant
Death Be Not Proud	John Gunther
Death in the Castle	Pearl S. Buck
Death in Venice	Thomas Mann
Death of a City	Amrita Pritam
Death of a Patriot	R.E. Harrington
Death on the Nile	Agatha Christie
Death of a President	William Manchester
Death of a Salesman	Arthur Miller
Death-The Supreme Friend	Kakasaheb Kalelkar
Death Under sail	C.P. Snow
Debacle	Emile Zola
Decameron	Giovannie Boccaccio
Decline and Fall of Indira Gandhi	D.R. Mankekar and Kamala Mankekar
Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire	Edward Gibbon
Decline of the West	O' Spengler
Democracy Means Bread and Freedom	Piloo Mody
Democracy Redeemed	V.K. Narsimhan
Descent of Man	Charles Darwin
Deserted Village	Oliver Goldsmith
Desperate Remedies	Thomas Hardy
Detective	Arthur Hailey
Devadas	Sarat Chandra Chatterjee
Dharmashastra	Manu
Dialogue with Death	Arthur Koestler
Diana-Her Time Story in Her Own Words	Andrew Martin
Diana-Princess of Wales : A Tribute	Tim Graham
Diana-The Story So Far	Julia Donelli
Diana-The True Story	Andrew Morton
Diana Versus Charles	James Whitaker
Die Blendung	Elias Canetti
Dilemma of Our Time	Harold Joseph Laski

Diplomacy	Henry Kissinger
Diplomacy and Disillusion	George Urbans
Diplomacy in Peace and War	J.N. Kaul
Disappearing Acts	Terry McMillan
Discovery of India	Jawaharlal Nehru
Distant Drums	Manohar Malgonkar
Distant Neighbours	Kuldip Nayar
Divine Comedy	A.Dante
Divine Life	Swami Sivananda
Doctor Faustus	Christopher Marlowe
Doctor's Dilemma	G.B.Shaw
Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde	Robert Louis Stevensan
Dr. Zhivago	Boris Pasternak
Doll's House	Ibsen
Dolly-The Birth of a Clone	Jina Kolata
Don Juan	George Byron
Don Quixote	Cervantes
Don't Laugh-We are Police	Bishan Lal Vohra
Double Betrayal	Paula R. Newburg
Double Helix	J.D. Watson
Double Tongue	William Golding
Double Teeth	U.B. Sinclair
Dragon's Seed	Pearl S. Buck
Dream in Hawaii	Bhabani Bhattacharya
Dram of Fair to Middling Women	Samuel Beckett
Dreams, Roses and Fire	Eyvind Johnson
Drunkard	Emile Zola
Durgesh Nandini	Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
Dynamics of Social Change	Chandra Shekhar
Earth	Emile Zola
Earth in the Balance: Forging a New Common Purpose	Al Gore
Earth Mother	Pupul Jayakar
East of Eden	B.N. Mullick
East West	Salman Rushdie
East Wind	Pearl S. Buck
Economic Planning of India	Ashok Mehta

Economics of Peace and Laughter	John K. Galbraith
Economics of the Third World	S.K. Ray
Education of Public Man	Hubert Humphrey
Edwina and Nehru	Catherine Clement
Egmont	J.W. Von Goethe
Eight Lives	Rajmohan Gandhi
Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard	Thomas Gray
Emile	J.J. Rousseau
Eminent Churchillians	Andrew Roberts
Emma	Jane Austen
Empire of the Soul: Some Journeys in India	Paul William Roberts
Ends and Means	Aldous Huxley
End of a Beautiful Era	Joseph Brodsky
End of an Era	C.S. Pandit
End of History and the Last Man	Francis Fukuyama
End of the Chapter	John Forsyte
Enemies	Maxim Gorky
English August	Upamanyu Chatterjee
Envoy to Nehru	Escott Reid
Erewhon	Samuel Butler
Escape	John Forsyte
Eassay on Life	Samuel Butler
Essays for Poor to the Rich	John Kenneth Galbraith
Essays in Criticism	Matthew Arnold
Essays On Gita	Aurobindo Ghosh
Essays of Elia	Charles Lamb
Estate	Issac Bashevis Singer
Eternal Himalayas	Major H.P.S.Ahluwalia
Eternal India	Indira Gandhi
Eternity	Anwar Shaikh
Ethics	Aristotle
Europa	Time Parks

Eugenie Grandet	Honore de Balzac
Everlasting Man	G.K. Chesterton
Executioner's Song	Norman Mailer
Exile and the Kingdom	Albert Camus
Expanding Universe	Arthur Stanley Eddington
Eye of the Storm	Patrick White
Eyeless in Gaza	Aldous Huxley
Faces to Everest	Maj. H.P.S. Ahluwalia
Facts are Facts	Khan Abdul Wali Khan
Fairie Queene	Edmund Spencer
Faith & Fire: A Way Within	Madhu Tandon
Fall of a Sparrow	Salim Ali
Family Moskat	Issac Bashevis Singer
Family Reunion	T.S.Eliot
Famished Road	Ben Okri
Far From the Madding Crowd	Thomas Hardy
Far Pavilions	M.M.Kaye
Faraway Music	Svetlana Allilueva
Farewell to the Trumpets	James Morris
Farewell to a Ghost	Manoj Das
Farewell to Arms	Ernest Hemingway
Farm House	George Orwell
Fasana-i-Azad	Ratan Nath Sarkar
Fathers and Sons	Ivan Turgenev
Faust	J.W. Von Goethe
Faustus	Chirstopher Marlow
Fidelio	L.Beethoven
Fiesta	Ernest Hemingway
Fifth Column	Ernest Hemingway
Fifth Horseman	Larry Collins and Dominique Lapierre
Final Days	Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein
Final Passage	Caryl Phillips

Finding a Voice-Asian Women in Britain	Amrit Wilson
Fine Balance	Rohinton Mistry
Fire Next Time	James Baldwin
Fire Under the Snow: Testimony of a Tibetan Prisoner	Palden Gyatso
First Circle	Alexander Solzhenitsyn
Flags in the Dust	William Faulkner
Flames from the Ashes	P.D. Tandon
Flounder	Gunder Grass
Follywood Flashback	Bunny Reuben
Food, Nutrition and Poverty in India	V.K.R.V. Rao
For the President's Eyes Only	Christopher Andrew
For Whom the Bell Tolls	Ernest Hemingway
Forbidden Sea	Tara Ali Baig
Forsyte Saga	John Galsworthy
Fortynine Days	Amrita Pritam
Franklin's Tale	Geoffrey Chaucer
Fraternity	John Forsyte
Free Man's Worship	Bertrand Russell
Freedom at Midnight	Larry Collins and Dominique Lapierre
French Revolution	Thomas Carlyle
Freedom Behind Bars	Sheikh Mohd. Abdullah
Freedom from Fear	Aung San Suu Kyi
French Leave	P.G. Wodehouse
Friend	Samuel Tayelor Coleridge
Friends and Foes	Sheikh Mujibur Rehman
Friends, Not Masters	Ayub Khan
From Hero to Eternity	James Jones
From india to America	S.Chandrashekhar
From Raj to Rajiv	Mark Tully and Zaheer Masani
From Rajpath to Lokpath	Vijaya Raja Scindia
Frozen Assets	P.G. Wodehouse
Full Moon	P.G.Wodehouse

Future of NPT	Savita Pande
Gambler	Fyodor Dostoevsky
Ganadevata	Tara Shankar Bandopadhyaya
Gandhi and Stalin	Louis Fisher
Gardener	Rabindra Nath Tagore
Garrick Year	Margaret Drabble
Gathering Storm	Winston Churchill
Geeta Govind	Jaya Dev
Ghasiram Kotwal	Vijay Tendulkar
Ghosts in the Machine	Arthur Koestler
Girl in Blue	P.G. Wodehouse
Girl On the Boat	P.G. Wodehouse
Gita Rahasya	Bal Gangadhar Tilak
Gitanjali	Rabindra Nath Tagore
Gladiators	Arthur Koestler
Glimpses of Indian Ocean	Z.A. Quasim
Glimpses of World History	Jawaharlal Nehru
Go Down Moses	William Faulkner
Goa	Asif Currimbhoy
God and the Bible	Matthew Arnold
Godan	Munshi Prem Chand
Godfather	Mario Puzo
Godrej: A Hundred Years	B.K. Karanjia
Gold Bat	P.G. Wodehouse
Golden Borough	James Frazer
Golden Gate	Vikram Seth
Golden Threshold	Sarojini Naidu
Gone Away	Dom Moraes
Gone with the Wind	Margaret Mitchell
Good Earth	Pearl S.Buck
Goodbye, Mr Chips	James Hilton
Gora	Rabindra Nath Tagore



Grace Notes	Bernard Mac Lavarto
Grammar of Politics	Harold Joseph Laski
Grapes of Wrath	John Steinbeck
Grapes and the Wind	Pablo Neruda
Great Challenge	Louis Fischer
Great Depression of 1990	Ravi Batra
Great Gatsby	F. Scott Fitzgerald
Great Illusion	Norman Angell
Great Tragedy	Z.A. Bhutto
Grey Eminence	Aldous Huxley
Grub Street	Henry Fielding
Guide	R.K. Narayan
Guide for the Perplexed	E.F. Schumacher
Gul-e-Naghma	Raghupati Sahai 'Firaq' Gorakhpuri
Gulag Archipelago	Alexander Solzhenitsyn
Gulistan Boston	Sheikh Saadi
Gulliver's Travels	Jonathan Swift
Gulzari Lal Nanda: A Peep in the Service of the People	Promilla Kalhan
Gurusagaram	O.V. Vijayan
Gypsy(poem)	Pushkin
Hamlet	William Shakespeare
Hard Times	Charles Dickens
Harsha Charita	Bana Bhatt
Hamsters	C.P. Snow
Handful of Dust	Evelyn Waugh
Happy Death	Albert Camus
Harlot High and Low	Honore de Balzac
Harvest	Majula Padmanabhan
Heart of Darkness	Joseph Conrad
Heavem Has No Favourites	Eric Maria Remarque
Heat and Dust	Ruth Prawer Jhabwala
Heavy Weather	P.G. Wodehouse

Henderson the Rain King	Saul Bellow
Heritage	Anthony West
Hero of Our Times	Richard Hough
Heroes and Hero worship	Thomas Carlyle
Henry Esmond	Thackeray
Heir Apparent	Dr. Karan Singh
Higher than Hope	Fatima Meer
Himalayan Blunder	Brig J.P. Dalvi
Hindu View of Life	Dr. S.Radhakrishnan
History of Hindu Chemistry	Sir.P.C. Ray
Hitopadesh	R.K.Narayan
Hindi Sahitya Aur Samvedna Ka Vikas	R.S. Chaturvedi
Hind Swaraj	M.K.Gandhi
Hindu Civilisation	J.M. Barrie
Hinduism	Nirad C.Choudhury
His Excellency	Emile Zola
History of the English Speaking Peoples	Sir Winston Churchill
Home Comings	C.P. Snow
Honest Thief and Other Stories	Fyodor Dostoevsky
Hornet's Nest	Patricia Cornwell
Hot Water	P.G. Wodehouse
Hound of the Baskervilles	Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
House for Mr. Biswas	V.S. Naipaul
House of the Dead	Fyodor Dostoevsky
House of Spirits	Isabel Allende
House Divided	Pearl S. Buck
How Late It Was, How Late	James Kelman
Human Factor	Graham Greene
Human Knowledge	Bertrand Russell
Humboldt's Gift	Saul Bellow
Humour	Ben Johnson
Hunchback of Notre Dame	Victor Hugo

Hungry Stones	Rabindra Nath Tagore
I am not an Island	K.A Abbas
I Dare	Parmesh Dangwal
I follow the Mahatma	K.M. Munshi
Idylls of the King	Tennyson
I Muse; Therefore I am	V.N.Narayanan
Idiot	Fyodor Dostoevsky
Idols	Sunil Gavaskar
If I am Assassinated	Z.A. Bhutto
Imperial Woman	Pearl S. Buck
Importance of Being Earnest	Oscar Wilde
In Afghanistan's Shadow	Salig S. Harrison
In Confidence	Anatolyu Dobrynin
In Evil Hour	Gabriel Garcia Marquez
In Light of India	Octavio Paz
In Retrospect-The Tragedy and Lessons of Vietnam	Robert S. McNamara
In Search of Gandhi	Richard Attenborough
In Search of Identity	Anwar el-Sadat
In the Afternoon of Time	Dr.Rupert Snell
In the Bluest Eye	Toni Morrison
In the Light of the Black Sun	Rohit Manchanda
In the Shadow of Pines	Mandeep Rai
India 2020: A Vision for the New Millennium	Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam & Dr. Y.S. Rajan
India-A Wounded Civilisation	V.S. Naipaul
India discovered	John Keay
India-Facing the Twenty-First Century	Barbara Crossette
India-From Curzon to Nehru and After	Durga Dass
India-From Midnight to the Millennium	Shashi Tharoor
India-Independence Festival (1947-1997)	Raghu Rai
India in Transition	PRof.Jagdish Bhagwati
India is for Sale	Chitra Subramaniam
India of Our Dreams	M.V. Kamath

India Remembered	Percival & Margaret Spear
India Today	Rajni Palme Dutt
India We Left	Hymphry Trevelyan
Indian Home Rule	M.K. Gandhi
Indian Philosophy	Dr.S.Radhakrishnan
India's China War	Neville Maxwell
India's Culture the State the Arts & Beyond	B.P. Singh
India's Economic Crisis	Dr. Bimal Jalan
India's Economic Reforms and Development Essay's for Manmohan Singh	I.J.Ahluwalia & I.M.D. Little
India's Rise to Power in the Twentieth Century & Beyond	Sandy Gordon
Indian Arms Bazaar	Maj-Gen, Pratap Narain
Indian Mansions	Sarah Tiloston
India Changes	Taya Zinkin
India Divided	Rajendra Prasad
India Wins Freedom	Maulana Abul Kalam Azad
Indian Muslims	Prof. Mohd.Mujeeb
India, the Critical Years	Kuldip Nayar
Indo-Pakistan Conflict	Russen Brines
Indica	Megasthenes
Indira Gandhi's Emergence and Style	Nayantara Sehgal
Indira's India	S.Nihal Singh
Inferno	Alighieri Dante
Inner Circle	Jonathan First
Innocence of Father Brown	G.K.Chesterton
Inside the CBI	Joginder Singh
Inside the Third Reich	Albert Spencer
Insider	P.V. Narasimha Rao
In Memoriam	Tennyson
Inside Asia	John Gunther
Inside Europe	John Gunther
Inside Africa	John Gunther

Insulted and the injured	Fyodor Dostoevsky
Intelligence Services	Dr. Bhashyam Kasturi
Interpreters	Wole Soyinka
Intimacy	Jean Paul Sartre
Intruder in the Dust	William Faulkner
Invisible Man	H.G. Wells
Iron in the Soul	Jean Paul Sartre
Ironhand	J.W. Von Goethe
Is Paris Burning	Larry Collins and Dominique Lapierre
Isabella	John Keats
Islamic Bomb	Stev Weissman & Herbert Krousney
Island in the Streams	Ernest Hemingway
It is Always Possible	Kiran Bedi
Ivanov	Anton Chekhov
Ivanhoe	Sir Walter Scott
Jack and Jackle-Portrait of an American Marriage	Christopher Anderson
Jai Somnath	K.M. Munshi
Jaguar Smile	Salman Rushdie
Jajar, Churashir Maa	Mahashweta Devi
Jane Eyre	Charlotte Bronte
Jankijeevanam	Prof. Rajendra Mishra
Jawaharlal Nehru-A Communicator & Democratic Leader	A.K. Damodran
Jawaharlal Nehru, Rebel and Statesman	B.R. Nanda
Jazz	Toni Morrison
Jean Christopher	Romain Rolland
Jesus Rediscovered	Malcolm Muggeridge
Jewel	Danielle Steel
Jhoota Sach	Yashpal
Jobs for Millions	V.V. Giri
Joke	Milan Kundra
Judge's Miscellany	M. Hidayatullah
Julius Caesar	William Shakespeare

Jurassic Park	Michael Crichton
Jungle Book	Rudyard Kipling
Jungle Girl	Ginu Kamani
Kadambari	Bana Bhatt
Kamadhenu	Kubernath Ray
Kamasutra	Vatsyayan
Kagaz Te Kanwas	Amrita Pritam
Kamayani	Jai Shankar Pandit
Kaleidoscope of India	Tomoji Muto
Kali Aandhi	Kamleshwar
Kanthapura	Raja Rao
Kanyadaan	Vijay Tendulkar
Kapal Kundala	Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
Kashmir-A Tale of Shame	Hari Jaisingh
Kashmir-Behind the Vale	M.J.Akbar
Kashmir Diary: Psychology of Militancy	Gen.Arjun Ray
Kashmir-The Wounded Valley	Ajit Bhattacharjee
Kashmir in the Crossfire	Victoria Shaffield
Kashmir A Tragedy of Errors	Tavleen Singh
Katghare Main	Ram Sharan Joshi
Kayakalp	Munshi Prem Chand
Kayar	Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai
Keepers of the Keys	Milan Kundera
Kenilworth	Sir Walter Scott
Killer Angels	Michael Shaara
Kissinger Years	T.N. Kaul
Kidnapped	R.L. Stevenson
King of Dark Chamber	Rabindra Nath Tagore
Kiratarjuniya	Bharavi
Kim	Rudyard Kipling
King Lear	Shakespeare
Kipps	H.G.Wells

Kitni Navon Main Kitni Bar	S.H.Vatsyayan
Koraner Nari	Taslima Nasreen
Kore Kagaz	Amrita Pritam
Kubla Khan	S.T. Coleridge
Kulliyat	Ghalib
Kumar Sambhava	Kalidas
La Divine Comedia	A. Dante
La Peste	Albert Camus
Lady of the Lake	Sir Walter Scott
Lady with the Lapdog	Anton Chekhov
Lady Chatterly's Lover	D.H.Lawrence
Lajja	Taslima Nasreen
Lal Bahadur Shastri	C.P. Srivastava
Last Analysis	Saul Bellow
Last Burden	Upamanyu, Chatterjee
Last Maharaja	Jean Louis Nou & Jacques Pouchepadass
Last Orders	Graham Swift
Last Days of Pompeii	Edward George Lytton
Last Phase	Pyare Lal
Last Things	C.P. Snow
Law, Lawyers & Judges	H.R. Bhardwaj
Laws Versus Justice	V.R. Krishna Iyer
Leaders	Richard Nixon
Leaves of Grass	Walt Whitman
Lead Kindly Light	Cardinal Newman
Le Contract Social (The Social Contract)	J.J. Rousseau
Les Miserables	Victor Hugo
Legacy of a Divided Nation	Prof. Mushirul Hasan
Latter from Peking	Peral S. Buck
Letters From the Field	Margaret Mead
Leviathan	Thomas Hobbes
Liberty or Death	Patrick French

Life and Death of Mr. Badman	John Bunyan
Light That Failed	Rudyard Kipling
Like Water for Chocolate	Laura Esquivel
Life Divine	Aurobindo Ghosh
Life is Elsewhere	Milan Kundera
Life of Samuel Johnson	James Boswell
Lines of Fate	Mark Kharitonov
Lipika	Rabindranath Tagore
Living Room	Graham Greene
Long Shadow inside Stalin's Family	Svetlana Allilyuyeva
Long Walk to Freedom	Nelson Mandela
Look Back in Anger	John Osborne
Lord Jim	Joseph Conrad
Lord of the Flies	William Golding
Lost Child	Mulk Raj Anand
Lost Honour	John Dean
Lost Illusion	Honore de Balzac
Lotus Eaters	A.Tennyson
Love and Longing in Bombay	Vikram Chandra
Love in A Blue Time	Hanif Khureshi
Lolita	V.Nabokov
Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner	Allan Sillitoe
Long Day's Journey into Night	Eugene O'Neill
Love, Truth and A Little Malice	Khushwant Singh
Lycidas	John Milton
Macbeth	William Shakespeare
Magic Mountain	Thomas Mann
Mahabharata	Vyasa
Malati Madhav	Bhavabhuti
Magic Fishbone	Charles Dickens
Magnificent Maharaja	K.Natwar Singh
Mahatma Gandhi	Girija Kumar Mathur



Major Barbara	George Bernard Shaw
Making of a Midsummer Night's Dream	David Selbourne
Malavikagnimitra	Kalidas
Main Street	Sinclair Lewis
Man, The Unknown	Lewis Carroll
Man and Superman	G.B. Shaw
Man for Moscow	G.Lynne
Man of Property	John Galsworthy
Man, Beast and Virtue	Luigi Pirandello
Man eaters of Kumaon	Jim Corbett
Marriage and Morals	Bertrand Russell
Managing of the Future	Peter, F. Drucker
Mama	Terry McMillan
Man for All Seasons	Robert Bolt
Man of Destiny	George Bernard Shaw
Mandarin	Simon de Beauvoir
Mankind and Mother Earth	Arnold Toynbee
Mansfield Park	Jane Austen
Manviya Sanskriti Ke Rachnatmak Aayam	Prof. Raghuvansh
Many Worlds	K.P.S. Menon
Masters	C.P. Snow
Mati Matal	Gopinath Mohanty
Maurice	E.M. Forster
Mayor of Casterbridge	Thomas Hardy
Meghdoot	Kalidas
Mein Kampf	Adolf Hitler
Memories of the Second World War	Churchill
Memories of a Bystander: Life in Diplomacy	Iqbal Akhund
Memories of Hope	Charles de Gaulle
Men Who Kept the Secrets	Thomas Powers
Men Who Killed Gandhi	Manohar Malgonkar
Meri Rehen Meri Manzil	Krishna Puri

Middle March	George Eliot
Middle Ground	Margaret Drabble
Midnight's Children	Salman Rushdie
Midsummer Night's Dream	William Shakespeare
Mill on the Floss	George Eliot
Million Mutinies Now	V.S. Naipaul
Mirror of the Sea	Joseph Conrad
Miser	Moliere
Missed Opportunities: Indo-Pak War 1965	Maj-Gen, Lakshman Singh
Mistaken identity	Nayantara Sehgal
Moby Dick	Herman Melville
Modern Painters	John Ruskin
Mother India	Katherine Mayo
Mod Classics	Joseph Conrad
Modern South Asia: History, Culture, Political Economy	Sugata Bose & Ayesha Jalal
Modernity Morality And The Mahatma	Madhuri Santhanam Sondhi
Mondays on Dark Night of Moon	Kirin Narayan
Mookhajjiva Kanasugalu	K. Shivram Karanth
Moon and Six Pence	W. Somerset Maugham
Moonlight Sonata	L.Beethoven
Moonwalk	Michael Jackson
Moor's Last Sigh	Salman Rushdie
Mother	Maxim Gorky
Mountbatten and Independent India	Larry Collins and Dominique Lapierre
Mountbatten and the Partition of India	Larry Collins and Dominique Lapierre
Mrinalini	Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
Mritunjaya	Shivaji Sawant
Mrs. De Winter	Sarah Hill
Mrs. Gandhi's Second Reign	Arun Shourie
Much Ado About Nothing	Shakespeare
Mudra rakshasa	Vishakhadatta
Murder in the Cathedral	T.S. Eliot

Mughal Maharajas And The Mahatma	K.R.N. Swami
Murder on the Orient Express	Agatha Christie
Murky Business	Honore de Balzac
Murder of Aziz Khan	Zulfikar Ghose
Muslim Law and the Constitution	A.M. Bhattacharjea
My Days	R.K. Narayan
My Early Life	M.K. Gandhi
My Experiment With Truth	M.K. Gandhi
My Life and Times	V.V.Giri
My Own Boswell	M.Hidayatullah
My Father, Deng Xiaoping	Xiao Rong
My India	S. Nihal Singh
My Music, My Love	Ravi Shankar
My Presidential Years	Ramaswamy Venkataraman
My Truth	Indira Gandhi
Mysterious Universe	James Jeans
My Several Worlds	Pearl S. Buck
My Son's Father	Dom Moraes
My South Block Years	J.N. Dixit
My Struggles	E.K. Nayanar
Myths of sisyphus	Albert Camus
My Prison Diary	J.P Narayan
Naari	Humayun Azad
Nana	Emile Zola
Naganandan	Harsha Vardhana
Naku Thanthi	D.R. Bendre
Nai Duniya Ko Salam & Pathor Ki Dewar	Ali Sardar Jafri
Naivedyam (The Offering)	N. Balamani Amma
Naked Came the Stranger	Penelope Ashe
Nacked Face	Sydney Sheldon
Naked Triangle	Balwant Gargi
Napoleon of Notting Hill	G.K. Chesterton

Nature and the Language Politics of India	Robert D.King
Nehru Family and Sikhs	Harbans Singh
Nelson Mandela: A Biography	Martin Meredith
Netaji-Dead or Alive	Samar Guha
Never At Home	Dom Moraes
New Dimensions of Peace	Chester Bowles
New Dimensions of India's Foreign Policy	Atal Behari Vajpayee
Nice Guys Finish Second	B.K. Nehru
Nicholas Nickelby	Charles Dickens
Night Manager	John le Carre
Nile Basin	Sir Richard Burton
Nine Days Wonder	John Mansfield
Nisheeth	Uma Shankar Joshi
Niti-Sataka	Bhartrihari
Nineteen Eighty-Four	George Orwell
1999-Victory Without War	Richard Nixon
Nirbashita Narir Kabita	Taslina Nasreen
Non-Violence in Peace and War	M.K. Gandhi
North	Seamus Heaney
Northanger Abbey	Jane Austen
Nothing Like The Sun	Anthony Burgess
No Full stops in India	Mark Tully
Nuclear India	G.G. Mirchandani and P.K.S. Namboodari
Nurturing Development	Ismail Serageldin
Nursery Alice	Lewis Carroll
O'Jerusalem	Larry Collins and Dominique Lepierre
Occasion for Loving	Nadine Gordimer
Odessa File	Frederick Forsyth
Odakkuzal	G.Shankara Kurup
Odyssey	Homer
Of Human Bondage	W.Somerset Maugham
Oh, Le Beaux Jours	Samuel Beckett

Old Curiosity Shop	Charles Dickens
Old Goriot	Honore de Balzac
Old Man and the Sea	Ernest Hemingway
Old Path: white Clouds	Thich Nht Hanh
Oliver's Story	Erich Segal
Oliver Twist	Erich Segal
Oliver Twist	Charles Dickens
Omeros	Derek Walcott
On History	Eric Hobswan
One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich	Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn
One-eyed Uncle	Laxmikant Mahapatra
One World to Share	Sridath Ramphal
One the Threshold of Hope	Pope john Paul
One Hundred Years of Solitude	Gabriel Garcia Marquez
One Upmanship	Stephen Potter
One World and India	Arnold Toynbee
One World	Wendell Wilkie
Only One Year	Svetlana
Operation Bluestar-the True Story	Lt-Gen.K.S. Brar
Operation Shylock	Philip Roth
Origin of Species	Charles Darwin
Oru Desathinte Katha	S.K. Pottekatt
Other Side of Midnight	Sydney Sheldon
Othello	Shakespeare
Our Films, Their Films	Satyajit Ray
Our India	Minoo Masani
Out of Dust	F.D. Karaka
Paddy Clarke Ha, Ha, Ha	Reddy Doyle
Padmavati	Malik Mohammed Jayasi
Painted Veil	W. Somerset Maugham
Painter of Signs	R.K. Narayan
Pair of Blue Eyes	Thomas Hardy

Pakistan in the 20th Century Political History	Lawrence Ziring
Pakistan Crisis	David Loshak
Pakistan Papers	Mani Shankar Aiyer
Pakistan-The Gathering Storm	Benazir Bhutto
Panchagram	Tarashankar Bandopadhyaya
Panchtantra	Vishnu Sharma
Paradise Lost	John Milton
Pakistan Cut to Size	D.R. Mankekar
Paradiso	Alighieri Dante
Paradise Regained	John Milton
Passage to England	Nirad C. Chaudhuri
Passage to India	E.M. Forster
Past and Present	Thomas Carlyle
Past Forward	G.R. Narayanan
Pather Panchali	Bibhuti Bhushan Bandyopadhyaya
Path to Power	Margaret Thatcher
Patriot	Pearl S. Buck
Pavilion of Women	Pearl S. Buck
Peculiar Music	Emily Bronte
Peter Pan	J.M. Barrie
Personal of Democracy	P.C. Alexander
Personal Adventure	Theodore H. White
Persuasion	Jane Austen
Pickwick Papers	Charles Dickens
Pilgrim's Progress	John Bunyan
Pillow Problems and the Tangled Tale	Lewis Carroll
Pinjar	Amrita Pritam
Plague	Albert Camus
Plans for Departure	Nayantara Sehgal
Pleading Guilty	Scott Turow
Poison Belt	Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Politics	Aristotle
Portrait of India	Ved Mehta
Possessed	Albert Camus
Post Office	Rabindranath Tagore
Power and Glory	Graham Greene
Power of Movement in Plants	Charles Darwin
Power That Be	David Halberstan
Prathama Pratishruti	Ashapurna Devi
Prem Pachisi	Prem Chand
Prelude	William Wordsworth
Premonitions	P.N. Haksar
Preparing for the Twentieth Century	Paul Kennedy
Price of Partition	Rafiq Zakaria
Price of Power-Kissinger in the Nixon White House	Seymour M. Hersh
Princess in Love	Ann Pasternak
Prison and Chocolate Cake	Nayantara Sehgal
Prison Diary	Jayaprakash Narayan
Prisoner of Zenda	Anthony Hope
Prisoner's Scrapbook	L.K. Advani
Primary Colors	Anonymous
Prince	Machiavelli
Prithviraj Raso	Chand Bardai
Pride and Prejudice	Jane Austen
Principia	Isaac Newton
Professor	Charlotte Bronte
Profiles & Letters	K. Natwar Singh
Promises to Keep	Chester Bowles
Punjab, The Knights of Falsehood	K.P.S. Gill
Purgatory	Alighieri Dante
Pyramids of Sacrifice	Peter L.Berger
Pygmatation	G.B. Shaw
Quarantene	Jim Crass

Quest for Conscience	Madhu Dandavate
R Documents	Irving Wallace
Rabbit, Run	John Updike
Radharani	Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
Rage of Angels	Sydney Sheldon
Ragtime	E.L. Doctorow
Raghuvamsa	Kalidas
Rajtarangini	Kalhana
Ram Charit Manas	Tulsidas
Ramayana	Maharishi Valmiki (in Sanskrit)
Ramayana Dharshanam	K.V. Puttappa
Rangbhoomi	Prem Chand
Rains Came	Louis Bromefield
Rain King	Saul Bellow
Rainbow	Pearl S. Buck
Raj : The Making & Unmaking of British India	Lawrence James
Rang-e-Shairi	Raghupati Sahai 'Firaq' Gorakhpuri
Rape of the Lock	Alexander Pope
Rape of Nanking: An undeniable History of Photographs	Shi Young
Rape of Bangladesh	Anthony Mascarenhas
Rare Glimpses of the Raj	Pran Nevile
Ratnavali	Harsha Vardhan
Ravi Paar (Across the Ravi)	Gulzar
Razor's Edge	Somerset Maugham
Rebel	Albert Camus
Rebirth	Leonid Brezhnev
Red and Black	Stendhal
Red Star Over China	Edgar Snow
Red Wheel	Alexander Solzhenitsyn
Rediscovering Gandhi	Yogesh Chadha
Reflections on the French Revolution	Edmund Burke
Red Badge of Courage	Stephen Crane



Remembering Babylon	David Malouf
Reminiscences	Thomas Carlyle
Reminiscences	Thomas Carlyle
Reminiscences of the Nehru Age	M.O. Mathai
Rendezvous with Rama	Arthur C. Clark
Reprieve	Jean Paul Sartre
Republic	Plato
Rescue	Joseph Conrad
Resurrection	Leo Tolstoy
Return of the Aryans	Bhagwan S. Gidwani
Return of the Native	Thomas Hardy
Returning to the Source	Acharya Rajneesh
Revenue Stamp	Amrita Pritam
Rich Like Us	Nayantara Sehgal
Riding the Storm	Harold MacMillan
Rights the Man	Thomas Paine
Rise and Fall of the Great Powers	Paul Kennedy
Ritu Ka Pehla Phool	Vijendra
Ritu Samhara	Kalidas
Rivals	R.B. Sheridan
River Sutra	Gita Mehta
Road to Folly	Leslie Ford
Road to Freedom	K.K. Khullar
Robe	Lloyd C. Douglas
Robinson Crusoe	Daniel Defoe
Romeo and Juliet	William Shakespeare
Room at the Top	John Braine Roots
Rubaiyat-i-Omar Khayyam	Edward Fitzgerald
Rukh Te Rishi	Harbhajan Singh
Sader-i-Riyasat	Karan Singh
Sardar Patel and Indian Muslims	Rafiq Zakaria
Sakharam Binder	Vijay Tendulkar

Saket	Maithili Sharan Gupta
Satyartha Prakash	Swami Dayanand
Smaler's Planet	Saul Bellow
Sanctuary	William Faulkner
Sands of Time	Sidney Sheldon
Santa Evita	Tomas Eloy Martinez
Satanic Verses	Salman Rushdie
Savitri	Aurobindo Ghosh
Scarlet Letter	Nathaniel Hawthorne
Scarlet Pimpernel	Baroness Orczy
Scenes from a Writer's Life	Ruskin Bond
Sceptred Flute	Sarojini Naidu
Schindler's List	Thomas Keneally
Scholar Extraordinary	Nirad C. Chaudhuri
School for Scandal	R.B. Sheridan
Scope of Happiness	Vijayalakshmi Pandit
Search for Home	Sasthi Brata
Second World War	Winston Churchill
Secret Agent	Joseph Conrad
Sense of Time	S.H. Vatsyayan
Sesame and Lilies	John Ruskin
Seven Lamps of Architecture	John Ruskin
Seven Summers	Mulk Raj Anand
Tale of a Tub	Jonathan Swift
Tale of Two Cities	Charles Dickens
Tales from Shakespeare	Charles Lamb
Tales of Sherlock Holmes	Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
Talisman	Sir Walter Scott
Tamas	Bhisham Sahni
Tar Baby	Toni Morrison
Tarkash	Javed Akhtar
Tarzan of the Apes	Edgar Rice Burroughs

Tehriq-e-Mujahideen	Dr. Sadiq Hussain
Temple Tiger	Jim Corbett
Tess of D'Urbervilles	Thomas Hardy
Thank You, Jeeves	P.G. Wodehouse
The Age of Extremes	Eric Hobsbawm
The Assassination	K. Mohandas
The Agenda-Inside the Clinton White House	Bob Woodward
The Agony and Ecstasy	Irving Stone
The Best and the Brightest	David Malberstam
The Beach Tree	Pearl S. Buck
The Betrayal of East Pakistan	Lt. Gen. A.A.K. Niazi
The Calcutta Chromosome	Amitav Ghosh
The Career & Legend of Vasco de Gama	Sanjay Subramanyam
The Commitments	Roddy Doyle
The Cardinal	Henry Morton Robinson
The Changing World of Executive	Peter Drucker
The Chinese Betrayal	B.N. Mullick
The Congress Splits	R.P. Rao
The Dark Side of Camelot	Seymore Hersh
The Defeat or Distant Drumbeats	Bhaskar Roy
The Diplomatic Bag	John Ure
Ugly Duckling	H.C. Anderson
Ulysses	James Joyce
Uncle Tom's Cabin	Mrs. Harriet Stowe
Unconsoled	Kazuo Ishiguro
Under Western Eye	Joseph Conrad
Unhappy India	Lala Lajpat Rai
Universe Around Us	James Jeans
Until Darkness	Parvin Ghaffari
Untouchable	Mulk Raj Anand
Upturned Soil	Mikhail Sholokov
Urvashi	Ramdhari Singh 'Dinkar'

Uttar Ramcharita	Bhava Bhuti
Utopia	Thomas More
Unto This Last	John Ruskin
Untold Story	Gen.B.M.Kaul
Valley of Dolls	Jacqueline Susanne
Vanity Fair	Thackeray
Vendor of Sweets	R.K.Narayan
Venisamhara	Narayana Bhatt
Very Old Bones	William Kennedy
Victim	Saul Bellow
Victory	Joseph Conrad
Video Nights in Kathmandu	Pico Lyer
View from Delhi	Chester Bowles
View from the UN	U Thant
Vikram and the Vampire	Sir Richard Burton
Village by the Sea	Anita Desai
Village	Mulk Raj Anand
Vinay Patrika	Tulsidas
Virangana	Maithili Sharan Gupta
Virginians	William Thackeray
Vish Vriksha	Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
Voice of Conscience	V.V. Giri
Voice of Freedom	Nayantara Sehgal
Voice of the Voiceless	Rutsh Harring
Waiting for Godot	Samuel Becket
Waiting for the Mahatma	R.K. Narayan
Waiting to Exhale	Terry McMillan
Wake up India	Annie Besant
Walls of Glass	K.A. Abbas
War and Peace	Tolstoy
War and No Peace Over Kashmir	Maroof Raza
War Minus the Shooting	Mike Marqusee

War of Indian Independence	Vir Savarkar
War of the Worlds	H.G.Wells
Waste Land	T.S. Eliot
Way of the World	William Congreve
We, Indians	Khushwant Singh
We, the People	N.A. Palkhivala
Wealth of Nations	Adam Smith
Week with Gandhi	Louis Fischer
West Wind	Pearl S. Buck
Westward Ho	Charles Kingsley
Where the Grass is Greener	David M. Smith
While England Sleeps	David Leavitt
Whispers of the Desert	Fatima Bhutto
White House Years	Henry Kissinger
Widening Divide	Rafiq Zakaria
Wild Ass's Skin	Honore de Balzac
Wings of fire, an Autobiography	Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam & A. Tiwari
Winston Churchill	Clive Ponting
Witness to History	Prem Bhatia
Without Fear or Favour	Neelam Sanjiva Reddy
Witness to an Era	Frank Moraes
Woman's Life	Guy de Maupassant
Women and Men in My Life	Khushwant Singh
Wonder That Was India	A.L. Basham
World According to Garp	John Irving
World Within Words	Stephen Spender
Worthy it is	Odysseus Elytis
Worshipping False Gods	Arun Shourie
Wreck	Rabindra Nath Tagore
Wuthering Heights	Emily Bronte
Yajnaseni	Dr. Pratibha Roy
Yama	Mahadevi Verma

Yashodhara	Maithili Sharan Gupta
Yayati	V.S. Khandekar
Year of the Upheaval	Henry Kissinger
Year of the Vulture	Amita Malik
Years of Pilgrimage	Dr.Raja Ramanna
Yesterday and Today	K.P.S. Menon
Zool: The Final Odyssey	Arthur C. Clarke
Zhivago,Dr.	Boris Pasternak
Zlata's Diary-A Child's	Zlata Filipovic Life in Sarajero
Zulfi, My Friend	Piloo Mody
Zulfikar Ali Bhutto & Pakistan	Rafi Raza

## **Famous Sites In India**

**Adina Mosque:** Pandua (West Bengal)  
**Ajanta Caves:** Aurangabad (Maharashtra)  
**Akbar's Tomb:** Sikandra, Agra  
**Aksherdham:** Gandhinagar, Gujarat  
**Amarnath Cave:** Kashmir  
**Amber Palace:** Jaipur (Rajasthan)  
**Anand Bhawan:** Allahabad  
**Bibi Ka Maqbra:** Aurangabad  
**Birla Planetarium:** Kolkata  
**Black Pagoda:** Konarak (Orissa)  
**Bodhistava:** Ajanta Caves  
**Brihadeeswara:** Tanjore Temple  
**Brindaban Gardens:** Mysore  
**Buland Darwaza:** Fatehpur Sikri  
**Char Minar:** Hyderabad  
**Cheena Kesava Temple:** Bellur  
**Chilka Lake:** East Coast of India near Bhubaneswar  
**Dal Lake:** Srinagar  
**Dilwara Temples:** Mt Abu  
**Elephanta Caves:** Mumbai  
**Ellora Caves:** Aurangabad  
**Gateway of India:** Mumbai  
**Golden Temple:** Amritsar  
**Gol Gumbaz:** Bijapur  
**Hanging Gardens:** Mumbai  
**Hawa Mahal:** Jaipur  
**Howrah Bridge:** Kolkata  
**Island Palace:** Udaipur  
**Itmad-ud-Daulah's Tomb:** Agra  
**Jagannath Temple:** Puri  
**Jahaz Mahal:** Mandu  
**Jai Stambha (Tower of Victory):** Chittorgarh  
**Jama Masjid:** Delhi  
**Jantar Mantar:** New Delhi  
**Jog (Gersoppa) Falls:** Mysore  
**Kailasa Temple:** Ellora  
**Kalan Masjid:** Delhi  
**Kanyakumari Temple:** Cape Comorin (Tamil Nadu)  
**Khajuraho:** Bhopal  
**Konarak:** Puri  
**Lakshmi Vilas Palace:** Baroda  
**Lal Bagh Garden:** Bengaluru

**Lalgarh Palace:** Bikaner  
**Lingaraj Temple:** Bhubaneswar  
**Mahakaleshwar Temple:** Ujjain  
**Maheshmurti (Trimurti):** Elephanta Caves  
**Mahmud Gawan's Mosque:** Bidar  
**Malabar Hill:** Mumbai  
**Marble Rocks:** Jabalpur  
**Marina:** Chennai  
**Minakshi Temple:** Madurai  
**Mt Girnar (Jain Temples):** Junagadh  
**Nagin Lake:** Srinagar  
**Nataraja:** Chennai  
**Nishat Bagh:** Srinagar  
**Padmanabha Temple:** Thiruvanthapuram  
**Palitana:** Junagadh  
**Panch Mahal:** Fatehpur Sikri  
**Pichola Lake:** Udaipur  
**Qutab Minar:** Delhi  
**Raj Ghat:** Delhi  
**Rashtrapati Bhawan:** Delhi  
**Red Fort:** Delhi  
**Sanchi Tope (The Great Stupa):** Sanchi, Bhopal  
**Santa Cruz:** Mumbai  
**Shakti Sthal:** Delhi  
**Shalimar Bagh:** Srinagar  
**Shahi Chashma:** Srinagar  
**Shanti Van:** Delhi  
**Shore Temple:** Mahabalipuram  
**Sidi Sayyid Mosque:** Ahmedabad  
**Somnathpur Temple:** Mysore  
**Statue of Gomateswara:** Mysore  
**Statue of Ugra:** Hampi  
**Sunderbans:** West Bengal  
**Sun Temple:** Konarak  
**Taj Mahal:** Agra  
**Tehzeeb Mahal:** Srinagar  
**Tirupati Temple:** Andhra Pradesh  
**Tower of Silence:** Mumbai (of the Parsis)  
**Victoria Memorial:** Kolkata  
**Victoria Garden:** Mumbai  
**Vijay Ghat:** Delhi



## Scientific Instruments And Laws

### SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS

**Altimeter:** an apparatus used in aircraft for measuring altitudes.

**Ammeter:** is used for to measure intensity of sound.

**Anemometer:** is an instrument for measuring the force and velocity of wind.

**Audiometer:** an instrument to measure intensity of sound.

**Audiophone:** is an instrument required for improving imperfect sense of hearing.

**Barograph:** for continuous recording of atmospheric pressure.

**Barometer:** is an apparatus used for measuring the atmospheric pressure.

**Binoculars:** is an instrument used for seeing distant objects, the rays of light are twice reflected by means of right-angled prisms.

**Callipers:** a compass with legs for measuring the inside or outside diameter of bodies.

**Calorimeter:** an instrument used for measuring quantities of heat.

**Carburettor:** is an apparatus for charging air with petrol vapours in an internal combustion engine.

**Cardiogram:** a medical instrument used for tracing the movements of the heart.

**Cardiograph:** is a medical instrument for tracing heart movements.

**Chronometer:** is an instrument kept on board the ships for measuring accurate time.

**Cinematograph:** It consists of a series of lenses arranged to throw on a screen an enlarged image of photographs. The lens system which forms the image on the screen is termed the focusing lens.

**Commutator:** split ring which forms the main part of a D.C. Dynamo.

**Compass needle:** for knowing approximately the North-South direction at a place.

**Crescograph:** is an instrument for use in recording growth of plants; invented by J.C. Bose.

**Dip Circle:** It is an instrument used to determine the angle between the direction of the resultant intensity of earth's field and the horizontal component at a place. This particular angle is known as the dip of that place.

**Drinker's apparatus:** to help breathing in infantile paralysis.

**Dynamo:** The origin of electricity in a Dynamo is the transformation of mechanical energy into electrical energy. It depends on the principle of electro-magnetic induction whereby a current is produced on traversing a magnetic field.

**Electroencephalograph (EEG):** It is the technique of recording and interpreting the electrical activity of the brain. Records of the electrical activity of the brain, commonly known as "brain waves", are called electroencephalograms or electroencephalographs. EEG is the common abbreviation for both the technique and the records.

**Epidiascope:** for projecting films as well as images of opaque articles on a screen.

**Eudiometer:** It is a glass tube for measuring volume changes in chemical reactions between gases.

**Fathometer:** is an instrument used for measuring depth of the ocean.

**Galvanometer:** an instrument for measuring currents of small magnitude.

**G.M. Counter (Geiger Muller Counter):** This special device is used for detecting the presence of radiation and counting certain atomic particles.

**Gramophone:** an instrument with which we can reproduce the sound recorded by a suitable recording apparatus. It is fitted with a special type of apparatus known as sound box invented by Berliner.

**Gravimeter:** is an instrument for recording measurement under water and to determine the presence of oil deposits under water.

**Gyroscope:** is an instrument used to illustrate dynamics of rotating bodies. It is a type of spinning wheel fixed to the axle.

**Hydrometer:** is an instrument used for measuring the specific gravity of liquids.

**Hydrophone:** is an instrument used for recording sound under water.

**Hygrometer:** is an instrument used for measuring humidity in air.

**Kymograph:** is an instrument used to record graphically various physiological movements i.e., blood pressure, heart beating, study of lungs etc in living beings.

**Lactometer:** is an apparatus used for measuring the purity of milk.

**Manometer:** for determining the pressure of a gas.

**Mariner's Compass:** is an apparatus which is used to guide the sailors. The needle always points north-south.

**Micrometer:** is an instrument used for converting sound i.e., fraction of the lowest division of a given scale.

**Microphone:** is an instrument used for converting sound waves into electrical vibrations.

**Microscope:** is an instrument which is used for magnifying minute objects by a lens system.

**Microtome:** is used for cutting an object into thin parts for microscopic inspection.

**Odometer:** is an instrument by virtue of which the distance covered by wheeled vehicles is recorded.

**Periscope:** It is usually used by the crew of a submarine to survey the ships etc, on the surface of the sea while the submarine is under water. It also enables the sailors to observe objects on the other side of an obstacle without exposing themselves.

**Phonograph:** is an instrument used for reproducing sound.

**Photometer:** is an apparatus used to compare the illuminating power of two sources of light.

**Pipette:** It is a glass tube with the aid of which a definite volume of liquid may be transferred.

**Potentiometer:** is used for comparing the e.m.f.s, of cells, measurements of the thermal e.m.f.s, large potential differences and currents. It is also used for measuring low resistances.

**Psychrometer:** is an instrument for measurement of the humidity of the atmosphere.

**Pyrometer:** is an instrument for recording high temperatures from a great distance (i.e., for recording temperature of the sun etc.) by making use of the laws of radiation.

**Radar:** Radio, Angle, Detection And Range is used to detect the direction and range of an approaching aeroplane by means of radio microwaves.

**Rain Gauge:** is an apparatus for recording of rainfall at a particular place.

**Radiometer:** is an instrument for measuring the emission of radiant energy.

**Refractometer:** is an instrument to measure refractive indices.

**Saccharimeter:** is an instrument for determining the amount of sugar in a solution. It is used in breweries.

**Seismometer or Seismograph:** is an instrument used for recording earthquake shocks.

**Sextant:** is an instrument invented by John Hadley used for measuring the altitude of the sun and of other inaccessible heavenly bodies.

**Spectrometer:** (1) It is a type of spectroscope suitable for the precise measurements of refractive indices. (2) An instrument for measuring the energy distribution of a particular type of radiation.

**Speedometer:** is an instrument which indicates speed at which a vehicle is moving.

**Spherometer:** is an instrument for measuring curvature of surfaces.

**Sphygmomanometer:** an instrument used for measuring arterial blood-pressure.

**Sphygmophone:** an instrument, with the help of which a pulse beat makes a sound.

**Sphygmoscope:** an instrument, by virtue of which, arterial pulsations become visible.

**Stereoscope:** It is a special type of binocular, through which a double photograph snapped from two different angles by a two-lensed camera is viewed in solid relief.

**Stethoscope:** is an instrument to hear and analyse movements of heart and lungs.

**Stop watch:** for recording small intervals of time in the laboratory, in races and other events.

**Stroboscope:** is an instrument for viewing objects moving rapidly with a periodic motion and to see them as if they were at rest.

**Tachometer:** is an instrument for determining speeds of aeroplanes and motor boats.

**Telephone:** a device by virtue of which two persons at two different places can communicate. It consists of two main parts (i) a microphone and (ii) a receiver.

**Teleprinter:** an instrument which prints automatically messages sent from one place to another, on telegraph lines.

**Telescope:** is an apparatus used for observing distant objects.

**Theodolite:** is an instrument for measuring horizontal and vertical angles.

**Thermocouple:** an instrument based on thermo-electricity used for measuring temperatures.

**Thermometer:** is an apparatus used for measuring temperature.

**Thermostat:** It is an instrument used to regulate the temperature to a particular degree.

**Viscometer:** is an instrument to measure viscosity.

### SCIENTIFIC LAWS ETC.

**Archimedes' Principle:** It states that a body, when immersed in a liquid, experiences an upward thrust equal to the weight of the liquid displaced by it.

**Avogadro's Hypothesis:** It is a modification of Berzelius' hypothesis. It states that equal volumes of all gases under similar conditions of temperature and pressure contain equal number of molecules. Avogadro's law is applicable only to gases.

**Boyle's Law:** states that the volume of certain gas is inversely proportional to the pressure at a constant temperature. In other words the product of pressure and volume remains constant provided the temperature is kept constant i.e.,  $P \times V = \text{a constant}$  if  $T$  remains the same.

**Charles's Law:** It states that at constant pressure all gases expand by  $1/273$  of their volume at  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$  for a rise in temperature of  $1^{\circ}\text{C}$  i.e., the volume of a given mass of gas at constant pressure is directly proportional to the absolute temperature.

**Dulong and Petit's Law:** states that the product of atomic weight and specific heat of solid elements is nearly equal to 6.4 i.e.,  $\text{At wt.} \times \text{sp. heat} = 6.4$  approx.

**Gay-Lussac's Law of combining volumes:** Gases react together in volumes which bear simple whole number ratios to one another and also to the volumes of the products, if gaseous—all the volumes being measured under similar conditions of temperature and pressure.

**Graham's Law of Diffusion:** states that the rates of diffusion of gases are inversely proportional to the square roots of their densities under similar conditions of temperature and pressure.

**Kepler's Law:** According to this law, a line drawn from the sun to a planet, moving around it, sweeps over a fixed area in a given interval of time.

**Law of definite proportions:** A chemical compound is always found to be made up of the same elements combined together in the same ratio by weight.

**Law of Floatation:** for a body to float, the following conditions must be fulfilled: (1) The weight of the body should be equal to the weight of the water displaced. (2) The centre of gravity of the body and that of the liquid displaced should be in the same straight line.

**Lenz's Law:** When there is change in the magnetic flux linked with a circuit, the electric current induced in the circuit will have a magnetic field opposing the change producing it.

**Newton's Law of Universal Gravitation:** states that "Every portion of matter attracts or tends to approach every other portion of matter in the universe with a force proportional to the masses and inversely as the square

of the distance.”

**Newton’s First Law of Motion:** “A body continues in its state of rest or of uniform motion in a straight line unless compelled by an external force to change that state.”

**Newton’s Second Law of Motion:** “The rate of change of momentum is proportional to the impressed force and takes place in the direction of the force.”

**Newton’s Third Law of Motion:** “To every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction.”

**Newton’s Law of Cooling:** states that the rate of loss of heat of a hot body is directly proportional to the difference of temperature between the body and the surroundings and is independent of the nature of the body.

**Ohm’s Law:** states that the ratio of the potential difference between the ends of a conductor and the current flowing in the conductor is constant, e.g., for a potential difference of  $E$  volts and a current  $I$  amperes, the resistance  $R$ , in ohms is equal to  $E/I$ .

**Principle of conservation of energy:** It states that, in any system, energy cannot be created or destroyed; the sum of mass and energy remains constant.

**Snell’s Law:** It states that the ratio of the sine of angle of incidence to the sine of the angle of refraction remains constant for any two given media.

**Specific heat of substance:** The quantity of heat required to raise the temperature of 1 gram. of a substance through  $1^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

## Scientific Appliances And Their Working Principles

**Aeroplane:** An aeroplane usually consists of the following three parts: (i) Wings, (ii) The engine and the propeller; and (iii) The tail. **Working:** In order to operate an aeroplane, the propeller is made to revolve at a very high speed with the help of a powerful petrol engine. The direction of the blades is so adjusted as to push the air in a backward direction, thereby producing a relative velocity between the 'plane and air—thus pushing the aeroplane in a forward direction. The push should be large enough to overcome the drag and should supply power for climbing.

**Air conditioning:** is the process of controlling the humidity, temperature, purity and circulation of air in a certain factory, a public building, hotels or a private house. The major aim of air-conditioning is to regulate the temperature, thereby producing a “cooling effect” on the whole. Exhaust machines are devised at a particular place for driving out waste and dirty gases, thereby completely purifying the air.

**Binoculars:** is an instrument used for seeing distant objects; the rays of light are twice reflected by means of right-angled prisms.

**Carburettor:** It is an apparatus for getting liquid fuel mixed with air as it is taken into an automobile or other like engines.

**CD-Rom:** It is a computer peripheral device that employs compact disk technology to store large amounts of digitized data for later retrieval.

**Cellular Phone:** This phone allows you to make a telephone while on the move. It can be installed in vehicles or can be carried along.

**Cinematography:** The principle of persistence of vision is utilised in cinematography. A cinematograph is an apparatus for projecting the pictures of moving objects on the screen. The instantaneous photographs of the successive positions of the moving body are photographed on a continuous film with the help of a special camera called the movie camera, with an automatic shutter at the rate of nearly 16 per second. The film duly developed is projected intermittently with a similar shutter as above so that it opens when the film is stationary and closes when it jerks off.

**Computer:** A complicated electronic machine which can perform incredibly complex calculations at incomprehensible speeds. It was invented by Charles Babbage. It can do whatever we know how to order it to perform. A computer consists of a Central Processing Unit (C.P.U.) and a number of peripheral units. A computer does not do anything which a human being cannot do. Only that it does is much faster and accurately.

**Dewar Flask:** is a double-walled glass flask, the inner surface of the outer vessel and the outer surface of the inner vessel of which have been silvered. The vacuum is created in the space between the two walls. This principle successfully prevents any interchange of temperature of the contents, because: (1) glass is a bad conductor (2) convection is not possible because there is vacuum between the walls and (3) a little radiation that takes place from the inner vessel is reflected by the inner surface of the outer wall.

**Daniel Cell:** In this a rod of zinc is placed in dilute sulphuric acid contained in a cylindrical porous pot. The porous pot and its contents are placed in a large cylindrical copper vessel which also functions as positive pole of the cell. The space between the porous pot and the copper vessel is occupied by a solution of copper sulphate. The hydrogen produced by the action of the zinc on sulphuric acid travels towards the copper electrode. On delivering its electricity to the copper, it reacts with the copper sulphate turning copper out of the solution and forming sulphuric acid. The particles of copper liberated from the solution adhere to the outer copper vessel and thus the hydrogen is rendered harmless so far as polarisation is concerned.

**Diesel Engine:** It is a particular type of internal combustion engine, known as compression ignition engine. The air inside the cylinder is usually compressed to over 500 lbs. per sq. in. and the temperature is attained up to 800°F. At this stage the oil is injected into the hot compressed air, which gets ignited immediately, thereby producing a continuous gas stream, which pushes the piston upward. And thereafter the engine gets into operation.

**Dynamo:** The origin of the electricity in a dynamo is the transformation of mechanical energy into electrical energy. It depends on the principle of electro-magnetic induction whereby a current is produced on traversing a magnetic field.

**Electric Bell:** In an electric bell, there is one horse-shoe electromagnet, which plays an important role. A soft iron armature which is connected to a hammer H, is placed in front of the pole pieces of the electromagnet. One end of the coil of the electromagnet is connected to the terminal T2 while the other end is connected indirectly to the terminal T1 (i.e., through the soft iron armature which rests on the spring contact as shown in the diagram).

On connecting the terminals T1 and T2 through battery, the electromagnet attracts the soft iron piece, and the hammer H in turn strikes the gong G, which produces a sound. Simultaneously, the contact between the spring and the screw breaks which demagnetises the electromagnet and the soft iron piece falls back to make up the circuit once again. The process is repeated again and again, which produces a continuous sound.

**Electric Lamp:** The electric lamp is based on the principle that when an electric current is passed through a very fine metallic filament inside an evacuated glass bulb, it is heated so as to render the wire white hot or incandescent. The wire being very thin offers great resistance to the passage of the current so that considerable heat is developed and the temperature rises to make it luminous and thus emit light. The resistance generally increases as the temperature rises and soon an equilibrium is reached and there is no further rise of temperature, the amount of heat radiated by the filament being equal to that generated in it by the electric current. In order that the metallic filament shall not oxidise or rust, oxygen is removed from the bulb by pumping out air or generally some inert gas such as nitrogen or some other gas is made to fill the bulb.

**Electric Motor:** An electric motor is a device which converts electrical energy into mechanical energy. A D.C. motor generally consists of several segments of a coil of a wire of a large number of turns wound over a soft iron cylinder called the armature. It is mounted on an axle about which it revolves and is placed between the poles of an electromagnet called the field magnets. There are the commutator, brushes and the leads. It is based on the principle that a conductor carrying current experiences a force when placed in a magnetic field.

**Electro Cardio-gram (E.C.G.):** It is actually a graphic picture of the heart-beat which the physician can make



use of in the diagnosis. When the heart beats, its muscles contract and this causes a change in the electrical potential of the system. This change in potential is recorded on a paper by an electrical instrument known as electrocardiograph. The electrodes are connected to the two wrists and the left leg of the patient, and the machine acts like a galvanometer, the needle of which rests on a rotating drum covered with a paper, and thus the movements of the needle are recorded.

**Electromagnet:** whenever an electric current passed through a coil of wire, a large number of turns, wound round a soft iron core, the iron core gets magnetised and it becomes a powerful magnet, and is known as an electromagnet. This magnetism is temporary and lasts so long as the current passes through the coil. Looking at the end of the soft iron bar if the current in the coil is clockwise in direction that end of the bar is South Pole; if the current is counter-clockwise, that end is a North Pole.

**Electron Microscope:** It is just analogous to optical microscope in a way that beams of electrons are focused by magnetic lenses in a similar way to the focusing of light beams in the ordinary optical microscope. Germans were the pioneer to invent the electron microscope, during the year 1930. Direct magnification up to 10,000 times is possible. Still higher magnification is possible with the Proton Microscope.

**FAX:** Short for facsimile, it is a device that transmits pictures, drawings, text to a similar device at the receiving end, using telephone lines.

**Fibre Optics:** It is a branch of physics based on the transmission of light through transparent fibres of glass or plastic. These optical fibres can carry light over distances ranging from a few inches or centimetres to more than 100 miles (160 kilometres). Such fibres work individually or in bundles. Some individual fibres measure less than 0.004 millimetre in diameter.

Optical fibres have a highly transparent core of glass or plastic surrounded by a covering called a cladding. Light impulses from a laser, a light bulb, or some other source enter one end of the optical fibre. As light travels through the core, it is typically kept inside it by the cladding. The cladding is designed to bend or reflect-inward-light rays that strike its inside surface. At the other end of the fibre, a detector, such as a photosensitive device or the human eye, receives the light.

**Uses of Optical Fibres:** Optical fibres have a number of uses. Various industries use optical fibres to measure temperature, pressure, acceleration, and voltage. In fibre-optic communication systems, lasers transmit coded messages by flashing on and off at high speeds. The messages travel through optical fibres to interpreting devices that decode the messages, converting them back into the form of the original signal. Fibre-optic communication systems have a number of features that make them superior to systems that use traditional copper cables. For example, they have a much larger information-carrying capacity and are not subject to electrical interference. In addition, signals sent over long-distance fibre-optic cables need less amplification than do signals sent over copper cables of equal length.

Optical fibres are well-suited for medical use. They can be made in extremely thin, flexible strands for insertion into the blood vessels, lungs, and other hollow parts of the body. Optical fibres are used in a number of techniques that enable physicians to look and work inside the body through tiny incisions.

**Fire Extinguisher:** works by spraying continuous streams of carbon dioxide gas, which does not support combustion, and so acts as a fire extinguishing agent. Fire extinguisher is a medium size metallic cylinder fitted with a head-knob and a handle. At the time of emergency, the knob is struck against the floor, and carbon

dioxide gas begins to evolve. Inside this cylinder a bottle of dilute solution of sulphuric acid is embedded in sodium carbonate powder. When the bottle is broken, sulphuric acid reacts with sodium carbonate to produce large quantities of the gas.

**Fusion Torch:** is an instrument to be evolved by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission. It will use the power of the Hydrogen bomb to vaporise solid waste like junk-cars and bear cans, into their basic elements. The idea is based on the assumption that within a few years scientists will be able to harness the energy of the Hydrogen bomb—Controlled thermo-nuclear fusion—for use in electrical power plants.

**Geiger Counter:** A G.M. counter or Geiger-Muller counter is a device used for detecting and/or counting nuclear radiation and particles.

**Heart Lung Machine:** A machine which operates the function of the heart and lung at the time when the heart or lung is under operation. It directs the circulation of blood into body.

**Incandescent lamp:** If a body of sufficiently high melting point say platinum wire is raised to a high temperature, some of the radiations coming out fall within the range termed “light”. The range comprises of radiation of short wave lengths and high frequencies. When such a body is heated it emits different colours at different temperatures, and ultimately, it gives dazzling white light at 1500°C and above. So the incandescent lamp consists of a metal of a high melting point (generally tungsten) enclosed in an evacuated glass globe and heated by an electric current. The filament is either in the form of an open spiral of straight wire or in the form of a ring of coiled wire. This lamp consumes about 1.4 watt per candle.

**Internal Combustion Engine:** is an engine in which energy supplied by a burning fuel is directly transformed into mechanical energy by the controlled combustion of the fuel in an enclosed cylinder behind a piston. It is usually applied to the petrol- burning or Diesel oil-burning engine.

**Jet Engine:** The essential components of the jet engine is the Gas turbine. It drives the rotary air compressor, which supplies compressed air to the combustion chamber, where a fuel like kerosene oil or gasoline enters and burns. The hot exploded gases are then expelled to the rear in a high velocity jet exhaust. It is the reaction of the plane on this jet of ejected gases that drives it forward.

**Jet Propulsion:** It is now being commonly employed for propulsion of aircraft and the underlying principle is Newton’s third law of motion, that is, “to every action there is an equal and opposite reaction”. Here a gas turbine drives the rotary air compressor which supplies compressed air to the combustion chamber, where the fuel-like gasoline enters and burns. The hot exploded gases are expelled to the rear in a high velocity jet exhaust. It is the reaction of the ‘plane on this jet of fastly ejected gases that drives it forward. It has made possible supersonic speeds.

**Difference between Rocket and Jet Engine:** The essential difference between the propulsion of a jet engine and a rocket is that the gas turbines used in a jet engine require air to supply oxygen for the burning of the fuel. Rockets contain both fuel and an oxidizer to make them burn. Liquid oxygen is often used. So a jet engine would work only in the lower strata of the atmosphere where sufficient oxygen can be supplied by the air-compressors. The high velocity jet from a rocket is available for thrust in the upper atmosphere and even



beyond the limits of our atmosphere. For rocket flights of course, the wings and rudders would be absolutely useless since there would be no air to exert force on them.

**LASER:** or Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation, LASER is a device that harnesses light to produce an intense beam of radiation of a very pure, single colour. The power of the beam can be low (as in a food store laser scanner which reads prices on packages) or high (as in lasers used to cut metals). The first laser was built in 1960.

**Lightning Conductor:** It consists of a metal rod, the upper part of which is made up of copper with a number of conical points, the lower portion being an iron strip which extends deep into the earth's moist layers. A lightning conductor protects the building from the effect of lightning in two ways: (i) The pointed conductors are charged by induction oppositely thus setting up an opposite wind which brings about a slow and silent discharge of the cloud. (ii) If however the lightning does strike, the discharge may be carried to the earth through the metal strip without doing any damage to the building. In ships also, lightning conductors are fixed to the masts and carried down through the ship's keel-sheathing.

**Loud Speaker:** It is a device for converting electrical energy into sound energy. There are various types of loud speakers but the commonest and most efficient type used now-a-days is the moving coil type. It is based on the principle that when a varying current is passed through a conductor in a magnetic field, the conductor is acted on by a variable force and if the current is oscillatory, the conductor is set into vibrations.

**Mariner's Compass:** is an apparatus which is used to guide the sailors. The needle always points north-south. It consists of a magnetised bar with a card bearing the directions viz., north, south, east etc. The card is correctly mounted above and firmly attached to the magnetised bar. When the magnet moves in relation to the ship's course, the card automatically moves with it.

**Motor-Car:** A motor-car usually consists of the following working parts: (i) Internal combustion engine (ii) Gear Box (iii) Battery (iv) Carburettor (v) Dynamo (vi) Radiator.

**Working:** In order to operate a motor-car, the petrol from a container is ignited with the help of the battery. The vapours produced thereof are allowed to mix with air in the carburettor section, and thereafter the mixture is allowed to enter the cylinder of the internal combustion engine. The gases on expansion push the piston upwards thereby moving the crank-shaft, which in turn moves the main axle of the car. The motion of axle is controlled by the gear box.

**Periscope:** It is a device for viewing objects which are above the eye-level of the observer, or are placed so that direct vision is obstructed. It is usually used by the crew of a submarine to survey the ships etc., on the surface of the sea while the submarine is under water. It also enables sailors to observe objects on the other side of an obstacle without exposing themselves. It consists of a long tube, at each end of which is a right-angled prism, so situated that, by total internal reflection at the longest faces, light is turned through an angle of  $90^\circ$  by each prism. The light from a viewed object thus enters the observer's eye in a direction parallel to, but below, the original direction of the object.

**Phytotron:** is a big machine costing two million dollars and capable of producing any type of climate to order. It has been installed in Duke University, Durham, North Carolina to facilitate studies of environmental

biology—particularly growing of plants under varying climatic conditions. The machine can duplicate any set of climatic conditions from the tropical to the Arctic in the brick and glass building in which it is housed. It has six specially equipped green houses and 40 controlled plant chambers. It is a useful device for the study of environmental biology.

**Radar:** precisely means: Radio, Angle, Detection And Range. It is one of the interesting developments of wireless waves the principle of which has been utilised in the radio location technique or popularly known as RADAR. It is an electrical device used for the detection and location of the aircraft with the help of radio frequency waves.

**Working:** Wireless waves having very short wavelengths are set free in the shape of concentrated beam to flood or cover the required area of the sky. An aircraft entering that particular area is supposed to intercept the spreading waves, and an echo is reflected back to the transmitting station. In addition to detection of the aircraft, its distance from a particular place can also be calculated by recording the time taken by the wireless waves in travelling back. A discrimination between the aircraft of an enemy and a friendly nation can be made by understanding the nature of Echo.

**Refrigerator:** It is an apparatus or chamber for producing and maintaining a low temperature. The principle employed in the working of a refrigerator is that heat is absorbed by a liquid as it evaporates, thus producing a cooling effect. The substance commonly employed is liquid ammonia sulphur dioxide.

**Rocket:** The underlying principle of the flight of a rocket is Newton's Third Law of Motion viz., To every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. It is a self-propelled vehicle which depends upon the force provided by a fuel carried along with it. As the fuel burns, products of combustion are forced out at terrific speed at the rear of the vehicle and ejection imparts motion to it in the forward direction. It has its own oxygen supply for burning the fuel and therefore, there is no dependence on air for combustion or propulsion.

**Rocket Bomb:** If a rocket engine is used as a missile to carry an explosive charge it is termed as a Rocket Bomb. The principle of a rocket engine is the same as that of a jet engine but unlike the jet engine it carries its supply of oxygen with it to burn the fuel and is thus independent of the oxygen of the air. The hot gases formed in the combustion of the fuel are led through a nozzle. If a quantity of gas of mass  $m$  leaves the nozzle in time  $t$  with a velocity  $v$ , the force exerted on the mass of gas and hence the force also on the rocket =  $mv/t$ . Such a rocket bomb can be hurled from a place outside our atmosphere.

**Safety Lamp, Davy's:** It is based on the principle of rapid conduction of heat by a metal. In the miner's safety lamp, the flame of the lamp is surrounded by glass and above this is a space surrounded by five copper gauzes. Inflammable gases which may be present in the mine can pass through and burn inside the lamp. The copper gauze conducts away the heat so rapidly and effectively that the ignition point of the gas outside the gauze is never reached and thus the possibility of an explosion is avoided.

**Seismograph:** It is an instrument used for the registration of earth tremors, and consists of principle of a heavy pendulum system, the supporting framework following the ground movements and the bob remaining at rest on account of its large inertia thereby setting up a relative movement between the two parts of the seismograph. This movement is recorded with the help of electromagnetic transducers, galvanometers and electronic amplifiers. In order to record the displacements completely, usually three seismographs are made to set at one

particular station.

**Sound Barrier:** Before the advent of aircraft with supersonic speeds, it was apprehended that when the speeds of the aircraft and sound were equal, the compressional waves produced by the flight of the aircraft will be unable to get away and will give rise to a sound barrier which will offer a considerable resistance to the motion of the aircraft and huge structural stresses and strains will be called into play attended by great noise likely to react unfavourably on the crew. But no such effects have been observed now that the speed of the jet-propelled aircraft and rockets far exceeds that of sound.

**Spring Balance:** A Spring Balance is used for measuring weights. The principle involved is that the stretching in the case of a Spring is proportional to the load suspended and if a load of 1 kilogram produces a stretching of 1 cm, a load of two kilograms will stretch it by 2 cm and so on. The spring is held at the upper end and load is suspended by a hook attached to the lower end with a pointer attached to the upper end of the spring which moves over a scale.

**Steam Engine:** is a machine utilizing steam power through a device by virtue of which heat is converted into mechanical energy. The steam engine has two main parts: (i) boiler, and (ii) proper engine. It consists essentially of a cylinder in which a piston is moved backwards and forwards by the expansion of steam under pressure.

**Stereoscope:** It is an optical device that makes photographs seem to have three dimensions. An ordinary camera sees things only in a flat plane and never in the round. But if two cameras set several inches apart photograph the same object simultaneously, and if these two photographs are then mounted side by side and viewed through a combination of lenses and prisms in such a manner that the two units enter the two eyes without strain, the resulting mental picture (image) appear to have three dimensions. Everything is seen in the round, the way our two eyes normally view things. These are employed in aerial survey and in astronomical telescopes.

**Submarine:** may be regarded as a ship having a variable and controllable specific gravity. It is equipped with large ballast tanks (in the bow, the middle and the stern of the ship) into which water can be admitted through valves so that the vessel can be made to sink when desired. On the water being expelled again by pumps worked by compressed air, the ship rises to the surface. Inside the water it is the electric motors which drive it forward and there are horizontal rudders (or hydroplanes) which are fitted on both sides of the vessel so that by tilting them the vessel is gradually submerged, the same rudders help to maintain it at a desired depth of submergence.

**Tape Recorder:** It is an instrument which converts sound waves into electrical impulses which are recorded as a wavy groove on the tape. When it is required to produce the voice, the electrical impulses are again converted into sound waves.

**Telephone:** It is a device to produce sound to enable two persons to talk to each other from distance. The circuit, which is closed when the line is connected, consists of a transmitter and a receiver connected by an electrical conductor. The transmitter which is usually a carbon microphone causes variable electrical impulses to flow through the circuit. In the telephone-receiver, these impulses flow through a pair of coils of wire wound upon soft iron pole-pieces which are attached to the poles of a magnet. An iron diaphragm near these coils experiences variable pulls and vibrates so as to produce sounds corresponding to those made into the

microphone.

**Telephotography:** is a process by which the transmission of moving objects is made by radio from one place to another. A succession of still pictures is transmitted at the rate of twenty-five per second which gives an illusion of continuous movement. The television camera changes the light pattern of the transmitted scene into a series of electrical signals which modulate a very high frequency radio carrier wave. The received signals are changed into light variations and reassembled on the screen of a cathode-ray tube at the receiver.

**Teleprinter:** It is an instrument which prints automatically messages sent from one place to another. It consists of a telegraph transmitter with a type-writer key-board by which characters of a message are transmitted electrically in combination of 5 units, being recorded similarly by the receiving instrument. The receiving instrument then translates the matter mechanically into printed characters.

**Telescope:** A simple refracting astronomical telescope is an optical arrangement for seeing very distant objects. Two convex lenses are mounted at the ends of two tubes so that by sliding one tube within the other, the distance between the lenses can be changed and the images thereby can be focused correctly. The lens at the larger end of the telescope is of considerable focal length and is called the object glass and a smaller lens of short focal length is called the eye-piece. Parallel rays proceeding from a distant object form its real image at the principal focus of the object glass. The position of the eye-piece is adjusted so that a magnified virtual image of it is seen. Since the real image is inverted, this virtual image is also upside down—a fact of little importance in astronomical work. For viewing terrestrial objects, the real image formed by the object glass is re-inverted by another convex lens before it is magnified by the eye-piece.

**Television:** It is the transmission of images of moving objects by radio waves. The scene to be transmitted or its image on a photo-mosaic inside an iconoscope camera is scanned with the help of a fine beam of light traversing horizontally and vertically. The reflected pulses in the former case are picked up by photoelectric cells which convert light energy into varying electric currents, or in the latter case, the photo-mosaic with the help of suitable electrical circuits generates varying currents. These currents are amplified with the help of valve amplifiers and are then made to modulate the carrier waves from a transmitter. At the receiving station, the electrical vibrations are reconverted into light waves which are collected on the fluorescent screen of a cathode ray oscilloscope at the same rate with which they are generated at the sending station. With the help of the property of persistence of vision possessed by the eye, we can see on the screen an exact photograph of the transmitted scene.

**Thermometer, Clinical:** A clinical thermometer is used to note the temperature of a human body and has graduations from 65°F to 100°F. It consists of a thin glass bulb connected with a thick walled capillary tube known as the stem. There is a constriction in the bore near the bulb. When the thermometer is placed below the tongue (or in the arm-pit) of a person, mercury in the bulb gets heated and expands. The force of expansion pushes the mercury past the constriction, which thus rises into the stem. When thermometer is removed, the temperature falls and mercury contracts. But the level remains intact as the thread is now broken at the constriction. The temperature can thus be conveniently read. The mercury can be again brought into the bulb by giving it a slight jerk.

**Thermos Flask (Vacuum Flask):** It is used to keep hot liquids hot and cold liquids cold. The principles

involved in its construction are: (i) It is made of glass which is a bad conductor of heat; (ii) As there is vacuum between the walls, convection is not possible; (iii) The outer face of the inner vessel is silvered, so there is very little radiation as polished surfaces are bad radiators. The inner surface of the outer vessel is polished which serves as a good reflector of any small radiation from the inner surface.

**Tokamak T-3:** is a machine designed by Russians to harness fusion reaction for peaceful purposes. A fusion reaction takes place under extreme pressure and temperatures such as exist in the core of the sun. In this machine such conditions are created by generating a hot gas or plasma. The Russians are already at work on an improved version of the machine which should achieve self-supporting generation of fusion-energy.

**Transformer:** It is an apparatus by which the voltage of an alternating current is made higher (step-up Transformer) or lower (step-down Transformer) or its frequency. Transformer is made up of two coils, one of a small number of turns of thick wire and the other of a great number of turns of thin wire. A current going through the first of these causes an induction current of higher voltage in the second. If the main current goes through the second one, induction current of a lower voltage is generated in the first coil.

**Transistor:** It is an active component of an electric circuit which may be used as an amplifier or detector. It consists of a small block of a semi-conducting material to which at least three electrical contacts are made, two of them being closely spaced rectifying contacts generally and one ohmic or loose (non-rectifying) contact. Transistors are now being used in radio receivers, in electronic computers, in electronic control equipments, in place of vacuum tubes where the required voltages are not too high. They are much smaller than their vacuum tube counterparts, consume less power and have no filaments to burn out.

**Ultrasonoscope:** It is a compact, diagnostic instrument designed to measure and use ultrasonic sound (with a frequency higher than 20,000 cycles per second, beyond human hearing). It emits brief bursts of ultrasound which are reflected back by bone, fluid or tissue in the body and give an “echo-gram”. The instrument can be helpful in detecting deep-seated brain tumours, defective heart valves and abnormal growths.

**Videophone:** The world’s first commercial videophone service was started for limited experimental use in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. It is as much of an advance on the ordinary telephone as the addition of sound and colour was to the movies. The visual dimension also increases the functional utility of this communication apparatus, but the trouble so far has been in designing and making videophones which will be cheap enough to be installed and used by thousands of people.

## Crops & Minerals

### Chief Crops and Producing States

*(The first mentioned is the chief producing State)*

**Bajra (millets):** Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan.

**Barley:** U.P., Bihar, Haryana. Its cultivation requires cool climate.

**Cardamom:** Karnataka. *India is the largest producer of cardamom in the world.*

**Cashewnut:** Kerala.

**Cinchona:** Tamil Nadu (Nilgiri Hills); West Bengal (Darjeeling).

**Coconut:** Kerala is the leading producer of coconut in India. A coconut tree normally yield 60-70 nuts in a year.

**Coffee:** Karnataka, Tamil Nadu (Nilgiri Hills) and Kerala. *It is a tropical shrub.*

**Cotton:** Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Punjab and Maharashtra.

**Cotton Seeds:** Maharashtra, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

**Gram and Pulses:** U.P., Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Maharashtra and Karnataka.

**Groundnut:** Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh.

**Hemp:** Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and U.P.

**Jute:** Assam, West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.

**Linseed:** Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, U.P., Maharashtra and West Bengal.

**Maize:** U.P., Bihar and the Punjab.

**Mustard and Rape-seed (Sarson):** U.P., West Bengal, Punjab, Bihar and Orissa.

**Poppy (opium plant):** U.P., Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir.

**Rice:** Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Tamil Nadu and Orissa. *Rice is sown on the largest acreage in India.*

**Rubber:** Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka.

**Saffron:** Jammu and Kashmir. *It is obtained from the stigma of the saffron plant.*

**Silk:** Karnataka, Jammu & Kashmir, West Bengal and Assam.

**Spices:** *Pepper* in Kerala and West Bengal; *Chillies* in West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra;

*Cardamom* in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu; *Betelnuts* in West Bengal and South India.

**Sugarcane:** U.P., Bihar, West Bengal, Punjab and Maharashtra.

**Tea:** Assam, West Bengal, Kerala and Tamil Nadu (Nilgiri Hills), Uttarkhand (Dehradun) and Himachal Pradesh (Kangra Hills).

**Tobacco:** Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, U.P., West Bengal, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

**Wheat:** U.P., Punjab, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh. To some extent in Bihar, Rajasthan and Maharashtra. *It is sown in October-November and reaped in April.*

### Kharif and Rabi Crops

**Kharif Crops:** are crops raised in autumn as a result of sowing done in June-July. These are cotton, rice, maize and millets.

**Rabi Crops:** are winter crops sown in October and November and reaped in April. These are wheat, gram, linseed and mustard.

### Favourable climate and soil conditions for the growth of certain crops

**Wheat:** Its plant requires a cool climate in the beginning, warm and dry weather at the time of harvesting and rainfall at intervals—between 20'' to 30''. A clayey soil is very favourable.

**Barley:** cool climate and a soil poorer than that required for wheat.

**Rice:** hot and moist climate with rainfall from 40'' to 80'' or over and rich soil. The plant is required to remain under water for several days in the beginning. A marshy soil is very suitable.

**Sugarcane:** an evenly high temperature with sufficient rainfall—about 40''. It needs a fertile soil, having



lime and salt in it.

**Tobacco:** hot and moist climate; rich soil.

**Spices:** (*pepper, cinnamon, cardamom, cloves, nutmegs*) hot, moist and even climate.

**Opium:** It requires hot and moist climate with a rich soil.

**Maize:** warm and moist (but not very moist) climate.

**Cotton:** It requires warm, moist and even climate where summer is long and where the soil contains salt. Sea-breeze is beneficial for quality of the fibre. The ideal situation for plantation is lowlands near the sea coast or on islands in semi-tropical latitudes.

**Jute:** It requires a high temperature with a minimum of about 80°F during the period of growth. It also needs rich sandy soil, sufficient rainfall well distributed over the period of growth, ample supply of water for soaking of plants and for washing the stripped fibre. It also needs suitable and sufficient labour to handle the crop at the proper time.

**Rubber:** The plantation of rubber trees is better adapted to areas where the climate is warm and humid.

**Tea:** (*Tea is dried leaves of an evergreen shrub*). It requires warm and moist climate. It is grown on mountain slopes. At least 60'' annual rainfall in showers is needed for the new leaves to sprout. If water is allowed to stay, the roots are destroyed. So mountain slopes on which water does not accumulate are necessary. Soil containing iron is an additional advantage.

**Coffee:** requires warm and moist climate and a height between 457 metres and 762 metres—rainfall above 60''. The plant cannot stand extreme cold. When young, the plant is required to be protected from strong sunshine.

**Millets:** (*Jawar and Bajra*) require a hot and sufficiently dry climate and poor soil.

**Groundnuts:** require a hot climate and moderate rainfall 29'' to 40''. Soil should be light and sandy.

**Oilseeds:** require hot and moist climate and a rich soil.

### **Diseases of Crops**

**Black heart:** Potatoes

**Kernel bunt:** Wheat

**Powdery Mildew:** Peas

**Red Rot:** Sugarcane

### **Fertilizers**

Fertilizers normally contain three main ingredients namely nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium.

**Nitrogen:** imports a healthy green colour to the leaves.

**Phosphorus:** hastens leaf development and promotes root growth.

**Potassium:** plays an essential part in the formation of starch.

### **Mineral Resources of India**

India possesses huge mineral wealth but it is not much exploited. Coal, gold, mica, building materials, salt, petroleum, manganese ore, iron ore, copper ore and ilmenite are produced in quantities to be of real importance to industry and other sectors of economy. Out of these, mica, manganese ore and ilmenite are largely exported. India has, however, adequate resources of industrial clay, steatite, bauxite, chromite, titanium ore etc.

### **Minerals—Where Found**

(*The first-mentioned is the State in which the mineral is chiefly found*)

**Aluminium:** Kerala. It is extracted from Bauxite.

**Antimony:** Antimony deposits are found in the *Punjab* and Karnataka.

**Asbestos:** *Karnataka* and Rajasthan.

**Barytes:** (Barium Sulphate) *Tamil Nadu*, Andhra Pradesh, Manbhum and Singhbhum districts of Jharkhand.

**Bantonite:** *Rajasthan* and Jammu and Kashmir.

**Bauxite:** Ranchi and Palamau districts of *Jharkhand*, Belgaum, Kharia and Thana districts of Maharashtra; Balaghat, Jabalpur, Mandia and Bilaspur districts of Madhya Pradesh. *It is an ore of aluminium.*

**Beryllium Sands:** *Rajasthan*, Tamil Nadu, Kashmir and Bihar.

**Cement:** Katni in *M.P.*, Lakheri in Rajasthan, Jabalpur (*M.P.*), Guntur (Andhra Pradesh), Jhinkapani (Singhbhum district of *Jharkhand*), Surajpur (Haryana).

**China Clay:** Rajmahal Hills, Singhbhum district of *Bihar*, Kerala.

**Chromite:** Singhbhum and Bhagalpur (*Jharkhand*); Ratnagiri, Salem (Tamil Nadu); Karnataka; Keonjhar (Orissa); Ladakh (Kashmir).

**Coal:** Raniganj (**West Bengal**); Jharia, Giridih, Karanpur (Bihar); Bokaro, (*Jharkhand*) Panch Valley and Chanda (*M.P.*); Singareni (Andhra Pradesh) and Mukum (Assam).

**Cobalt:** *Rajasthan* and Kerala.

**Copper:** *Jharkhand* (Singhbhum and Barajamda); Rajasthan (Khetri).

**Corborundum:** Khasi Hills (*Assam*); Rewa (*M.P.*); Salem (Tamil Nadu); Karnataka and Jammu & Kashmir.

**Diamond:** Diamond mines are found in Panna district of *Madhya Pradesh*.

**Feldspar:** Burdwan (*West Bengal*); Rewa (*M.P.*); Tiruchirapalli (Tamil Nadu); Alwar and Ajmer (Rajasthan).

**Fuller's Earth:** (soft clay used in soap-making) is found in *Rajasthan*, *M.P.* and Karnataka.

**Gold:** Kolar gold-fields (*Karnataka*).

**Graphite:** **Rajasthan**, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Orissa and Kerala.

**Gypsum:** Bikaner and Jodhpur (*Rajasthan*), Tiruchirapalli (Tamil Nadu), Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh.

**Heavy Water:** Talchar in *Orissa*; Kota in Rajasthan; Baroda in Gujarat; Tuticorin in Tamil Nadu; Nangal in Punjab.

**Ilmenite:** Kerala. Occurs in the "Bank Sands" of the beaches near Quilon.

**Iron Ore:** Singhbhum (*Jharkhand*), Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj (Orissa).

**Kaynite:** largest deposits occur at Kharswan near Jamshedpur, Singhbhum (*Bihar*).

**Lac:** W. Bengal.

**Lead:** Zawar in Udaipur and at the Banjavi mines in Jaipur (Rajasthan).

**Lignite:** Neyveli in South Arcot district (Tamil Nadu).

**Limestone:** Singareni and Singhbhum (*Jharkhand*), Panchmahal (Gujarat), Balaghat, Bhandara, Chhindwara, Nagpur, Indore, Vishakhapatnam, Sandur (Tamil Nadu).

**Manganese:** Madhya Pradesh.

**Marble:** Jaipur (Rajasthan).

**Mica:** Koderma in Hazaribagh district, Monghyr (*Bihar*), Nellore in Andhra Pradesh.

**Monazite Sands:** are found in abundance in Travancore coast (Kerala State). Thorium is processed from Monazite sands.

**Nitre:** *Bihar*, U.P., Tamil Nadu and Punjab.

**Petroleum:** Digboi, Badarpur, Musimpur and Patharia fields of *Assam*, Cambay basin near Baroda where oilfields have been discovered and production has started. Large-scale drilling for oil is in progress in India in Bombay and Gujarat.

**Pitchblende:** Gaya (Bihar).

**Red Stone:** Jodhpur (Rajasthan).

**Salt:** Sambhar Lake (Rajasthan), and is also obtained from ocean water of Ranns of Kutch, on the north-western and south-eastern littoral (sea-shore) of India.

**Saltpetre:** *Punjab*, U.P. and Bihar.

**Silmanite:** Khasi Hills (*Assam*); Rewa (*M.P.*). *Silmanite is used in the manufacture of furnace-lining in iron and steel industry. It is also used in glass and ceramic industry.*

**Silver:** *Karnataka*; Singhbhum and Manbhum (*Jharkhand*); Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan.



**Steatite:** Guntur (*Andhra Pradesh*), Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, U.P., Karnataka and Rajasthan.

**Tin:** (Bihar) Hazaribagh district.

**Thorium:** (Processed from monazite sand) Travancore (Kerala).

**Tungsten:** Bihar, Nagpur (Maharashtra) and Marwar.

**Uranium:** Bihar.

**Zinc:** from Zawar mines in Udaipur (Rajasthan).

**Zircon:** occurs in the beach sands of Kerala and Cape Comorin.

*Bihar produces 40% of the mineral wealth of India.*

### **World's Largest Producers of Crops, Minerals, Industrial goods etc.**

*(The first-mentioned country in each case shown in italics is the largest producer)*

**Aluminium:** U.S.A., Canada Norway, Switzerland, France and India.

**Asbestos:** Canada leads in the world in production of Asbestos.

**Carpets:** *Iran*, India.

**Cheese:** U.S.A., England, Netherlands and Australia.

**Coal:** U.S.A., England, Germany, Russia, Australia and India.

**Cocoa:** *Ghana*, S. America and West Indies.

**Coffee:** *Brazil*, Indonesia, India.

**Copper:** Chile.

**Cotton:** U.S.A., Russia, Egypt, India, Brazil, Argentina and Pakistan.

**Electric Bulbs:** *England*, U.S.A., India.

**Gold:** *South Africa*, Australia, Canada, S. America, India.

**Ilmenite:** India.

**Iron ore:** U.S.A., CIS, U.K., France, Germany, India and Spain.

**Jute:** *Bangladesh*, India.

**Manganese:** India is largest producer of Manganese in the world. Gabon Republic situated on the western coast of South Africa is known as having one of the richest deposits at Moanda.

**Mercury:** *Italy*, Spain and U.S.A.

**Monazite:** India, supplies 88% of the world's need.

**Petroleum:** U.S.A., Venezuela, Russia, Middle East countries, Iran and Myanmar.

**Plastic Goods:** U.S.A., England.

**Rock Phosphate:** Morocco is world's leading supplier.

**Rubber:** *Malaysia*, Indonesia and Sri Lanka. *About 40% of the world's natural rubber is produced by Malaysia.*

**Silk:** *China*, U.S.A., France.

**Silver:** *Mexico*, U.S.A., Peru and India.

**Steel:** U.S.A., Germany, CIS and England.

**Sugar:** Cuba.

**Tea:** *India*, China, Sri Lanka, Japan and Indonesia.

**Tin:** *Malaysia*, Indonesia.

**Wool:** *Australia*, Argentina, New Zealand and South Africa.

## India At A Glance

India completed 65 years as a nation on August 15, 2012. During these 65 years, sizeable progress had been made, but there were also many failures. India has made numerous achievements, notably in agriculture, defence and industrial development. Other problems, such as population growth, law and order and corruption continue to be ignored.

India is a huge country, now with more than 1 billion people, and also a nuclear power. Yet, it does not account for much in the world. The 2009 Human Development Report ranked it at 134th out of 182 countries, wedged in between Lao and Solomon Islands. India is a globalization success but it cannot look after its children. Over 2.5 million children die in India every year, accounting for one in five child deaths in the world. Girls under five are 50 per cent more likely to die than boys, with the female death risk remaining higher till the age of 30. Poor mother and child health is one of the major factors that have kept India's Human Development Index (HDI) rank low. The disparity between States remains phenomenal, with four States—Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh—accounting for over half of the child deaths in the country.

According to **Economic Survey, 2009**, economic growth decelerated in 2008-09 to 6.7 per cent. This represented a decline of 2.1 per cent from the average growth rate of 8.8 per cent in the previous five years (2003-04 to 2007-08). The five years of high growth had raised the expectations of the people. Few, however, remember that during the preceding five-year period from 1998-99 to 2002-03 average growth was only 5.4 per cent, while the highest growth rate achieved during the period was 6.7 per cent (in 1998-99). Per capita GDP growth, a proxy for per capita income, which broadly reflects the improvement in the income of the average person, grew by an estimated 4.6 per cent in 2008-09. Though this represents a substantial slowdown from the average growth of 7.3 per cent per annum during the previous five years, it is still significantly higher than the average 3.3 per cent per annum income growth during 1998-99 to 2002-03.

The **per capita income** in 2008-09, measured in terms of gross domestic product at constant 1999-2000 market prices, was Rs. 31,278. In 2007-08 this stood at Rs. 29,901. Per capita consumption in 2008-09 was Rs. 17,344 as against a level of Rs. 17,097 in 2007-08. While there has been an increase in levels of per capita income and consumption, there has been a perceptible slowdown in their growth rate. The growth in per capita GDP decelerated from 8.1 per cent in 2006-07 to 4.6 per cent in 2008-09, while the per capita consumption growth declined from 6.9 per cent in 2007-08 to 1.4 per cent in 2008-09.

The **overall growth of GDP at factor cost at constant prices** in 2008-09, as per revised estimates released by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) (May 29, 2009) was 6.7 per cent. This is lower than the 7 per cent projection in the Mid-Year Review 2008-09 (Economic Division, Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), December 2008) and the advance estimate of 7.1 per cent, released subsequently by CSO in February 2009. With the CSO drastically reducing their estimate of GDP from agriculture (based on third advance estimates), and given that the DEA's 7 per cent estimate assumed normal agricultural growth, it would have had to be adjusted for any shortfall. The growth of GDP at factor cost (at constant 1999-2000 prices) at 6.7 per cent in 2008-09 nevertheless represents a deceleration from high growth of 9.0 per cent and 9.7 per cent in 2007-08 and 2006-07 respectively.

The **deceleration of growth** in 2008-09 was spread across all sectors except mining & quarrying and community, social and personal services. The growth in agriculture and allied activities decelerated from 4.9 per cent in 2007-08 to 1.6 per cent in 2008-09, mainly on account of the high base effect of 2007-08 and due to a fall in the production of non-food crops including oilseeds, cotton, sugarcane and jute. The production of wheat was also marginally lower than in 2007-08.

The manufacturing, electricity and construction sectors decelerated to 2.4, 3.4 and 7.2 per cent, respectively, during 2008-09, from 8.2, 5.3 and 10.1 per cent, respectively, in 2007-08. The slowdown in manufacturing could be attributed to the combined impact of a fall in exports followed by a decline in domestic demand, especially in the second half of the year. The rise in the cost of inputs during the beginning of the year and the cost of credit (through most of the year) reduced manufacturing margins and profitability. The growth in production sectors, especially manufacturing, was adversely affected by the impact of the global recession and associated factors. The electricity sector continued to be hampered by capacity constraints and the availability of coal, particularly during the first half of the year. As long as the coal sector remains a public sector monopoly (the only remaining nationalized sector), it could remain a bottleneck for accelerated development of the power sector.

The construction industry consists of different segments like housing, infrastructure, industrial construction, commercial real estate, etc. While the industry went through a boom phase with growth as high as 16.2 per cent in 2005-06, and continued to grow thereafter (albeit with moderation), the increase in the costs of construction due to a rise in the prices of inputs like steel and cement and interest costs had started impacting the industry. In certain segments of the industry, there was an excessive price build up in the form of a speculative bubble, related to limited supply of urban land for those segments. The rise in interest rates and the slowdown in housing loans also moderated demand. The double squeeze on the costs, as well as the demand side, and the fall in the liquidity in mid-September 2008 precipitated a sharp downturn in this sector.

A notable feature of the growth of the Indian economy from 2002-03 has been the rising trend in the gross domestic capital formation (GDCF). **Gross capital formation** (GCF), which was 25.2 per cent of the GDP in 2002-03, increased to 39.1 per cent in 2007-08. Much of this increase is attributable to a rise in the rate of investment by the corporate sector. The rise in the rate of investment has been on account of various factors, the most important being the transformation in the investment climate, coupled with an optimistic outlook for the growth prospects for the Indian economy.

The **growth in capital formation** in recent years has been amply supported by a rise in the savings rate. The gross domestic savings as a percentage of GDP at current market prices stood at 37.7 per cent in 2007-08 as compared to 29.8 per cent in 2003-04. Private sector savings dominated the total savings in 2007-08 and were at 33.2 per cent of GDP. Of this, the household sector savings was 24.3 per cent of GDP while the private corporate sector accounted for 8.8 per cent. Savings by the public sector was 4.5 per cent of GDP.

For three consecutive years (2005-06 to 2007-08), **foodgrain production** recorded an average annual increase of over 10 million tonnes. The total foodgrain production in 2007-08 was estimated at 230.78 million tonnes as against 217.3 million tonnes in 2006-07.

Some of the **major social sector initiatives** for achieving inclusive growth and faster social sector development and to remove economic and social disparities in the Eleventh Five Year Plan include: the Bharat Nirman programme, Mid-day Meal Scheme, National Rural Health Mission, Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission and the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS). Central support for the social programmes has continued to supplement efforts made by the States.

Under **NREGS**, over four crore households were provided employment in 2008-09. This is a significant jump over the 3.39 crore households covered under the scheme during 2007-08. Out of the 215.63 crore person-days of employment created under the scheme during this period, 29 per cent and

25 per cent were in favour of SC and ST population respectively. 48 per cent of the total person-days of employment created went in favour of women. The agriculture debt waiver and relief scheme implemented during the year was able to restore institutional credit to farmers and helped to support demand and revive investment in the rural and the agriculture sector.

**General:** India is a country of huge dimensions, measuring 3,214 km from north to south, and 2,933 km from east to west. The total area is 32,87,263 sq km, with a land frontier of 15,200 km and a coastline of 6,083 km.

Occupying a strategic position in the Asian continent, the country shares its borders with Pakistan on the west, Bangladesh and Myanmar on the east; along the northern boundary are Nepal, Bhutan, Tibet and the Sinkiang province of China. Just across the seas are Arabia and Africa on the west, Malaysia and the large Indonesian Archipelago on the east.

Indian rivers carry about 1,683,000 million cubic metres of water every year. The **main rivers of the Himalayan system**, both snow-fed and rain-fed, are the Indus, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra, all of them flowing throughout the year. The Indus has five tributaries—Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas and Sutlej; it runs through the Himalayas, then flows into Sind (Pakistan) and finally into the Arabian Sea.

The **major rivers of the Deccan system** are Godavari, Krishna, Cauvery, Mahanadi, Damodar, Sharavati, Periyar, Narmada and Tapti. Being all rain-fed, many of them are reduced into rivulets during the summer. These rivers contribute about 30 per cent of the outflow.

**Area and Population:** India has only 2.4 per cent of the total world area but contains about 16 per cent of the population. It is the second most populous country in the world, next to China which accounts for over one-fifth of the world's total. India's 2001 Census put the total population at 1,027,015,247, comprising 531,277,078 men and 495,738,690 women.

The **decadal growth**, however, declined from 23.86 per cent in 1981-91 to 21.34 per cent in 1991-2000. In real numbers, India has registered a fall in its decadal growth rate by 2.52 per cent, the sharpest of its kind in Independent India. Bihar beat everyone in the decadal growth percentage with a high of 28.43 per cent, against Kerala with the lowest at 9.42 per cent.

The number of literate people in the country too has gone up significantly, comprising three-fourths of the male population and more than half of the female population, while, for the first time since independence, the absolute members of illiterates have shown a significant decline. The **literacy rates** among the population seven years and above stood at 65.38 per cent and the corresponding figures for males and females were 75.85 and 54.16, respectively. Kerala continued its lead in literacy rate with 90.02 per cent, followed by Mizoram (88.49) and Lakshadweep (87.52), while Bihar recorded the lowest literacy rate of 47.53 per cent. West Bengal has shifted from 6th to 11th position when it comes to literacy.

Uttar Pradesh continued to be the most populous State with 16.7 per cent of India's population, followed by Maharashtra (9.42 per cent) and Bihar (8.07 per cent). Due to creation of Jharkhand, Bihar has become the third populous State after Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra. Till the 1991 census composite Bihar was the second most populous State.

Kerala recorded the lowest population growth rate of 9.42 per cent, followed by Tamil Nadu (11.19) and Andhra Pradesh (13.86).

The sex ratio in the country is 933 females per 1000 males, which is an improvement of six points over 927 recorded in 1991 census.

The highest sex ratio of 1058 women per 1000 men has been reported from Kerala, while Haryana recorded the lowest ratio of 861. The sharpest decline in sex ratio of child population has been observed in Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Uttaranchal, Maharashtra and Chandigarh.

West Bengal is the most densely populated State with 904 persons living per sq km, followed by Bihar with 880.

**National Population Policy:** The Union Cabinet adopted the National Population Policy, 2000 detailing several promotional and motivational measures, including extension of the freeze on Lok Sabha seats till 2026.

Seeking higher investments in social infrastructure, and a comprehensive package of reproductive and child health services, the policy stated that sustainable development with more equitable distribution was not possible without stabilising population. The annual increase of 15.5 million people was neutralising the efforts to conserve the environment or to boost development. A national commission on population, chaired by Prime Minister, has also been announced, which would monitor and guide the implementation of the policy.

**Free Schooling:** The Union government decided to make free and compulsory elementary education, for children in the age group of 6-14 years, a fundamental right. The Muhiram Saikia Committee estimated that an expenditure of Rs 40,000 crore over a period of 5 years was required to set up the necessary facilities.

The Lok Sabha, on November 28, 2001, unanimously passed a Constitution amendment making education for children in the age group of 6-14 years a fundamental right.

Education is the eighth in a set of fundamental rights recognised by the Constitution as basic privileges due to every Indian citizen. Among them are right to equality, right to freedom, right against exploitation and right to freedom of religion.

The new fundamental duty in the Constitution requires parents or guardians to provide opportunities for education, while not penalizing them for failing to do so. The legislation also incorporates a new Directive Principles of State Policy—a list of principles the government is expected to work towards—that says: “the State shall endeavour to provide early childhood care and education for all children till the age of six.”

Critics, however, say that the move has two major flaws—it does not talk about compulsory education for children up to six years, and it shifts the main responsibility of providing education from the State to parents.

Most parents, they argue, don't have the means to provide education, or lack the inclination. It would be difficult to translate the right into action. Most poor parents don't have enough means to accord priority to education. The State should have taken the responsibility.

**Religious Communities:** India has several religious communities and sects, the important among them being: (1) the Hindus (who constitute 82.72 per cent) of the total population and the majority (60 per cent and above) in most of the States and Union Territories; (2) Muslims (11.21 per cent); (3)



Christians, the third biggest community (2.60 per cent). Over 60 per cent of the Christians live in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh; (4) Sikhs (about 1.89 per cent) are concentrated largely in Punjab where they form 60.22 per cent of the population; (5) Buddhists form only 0.73 per cent of the population. Over 85 per cent of them live in Maharashtra, and most of the others in Arunachal Pradesh; (6) Jains form only 0.47 per cent of the population. They live mostly in the Western region—Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Gujarat. A small number reside in other States; (7) Zoroastrians (only around 90,000 in number) are concentrated in Mumbai.

**Census of religions:** The Census Commissioner of India released in September 2004, for the first time, data on population, number of literates, category and types of workers for each major religious group, to give valuable insights into the developmental patterns of each major community.

As per the Census figures, Hindus continue to comprise an overwhelming majority of the country—80.5%—although their growth rate has declined by 4.8% in the period 1981-91 to 1991-2001, from 25.1% to 20.3%.

Muslims account for 13.4% of the population, but their growth rate has nudged up by 1.5%, from 34.5% to 36%. In other words, for every Muslim there are six Hindus in the country.

The highest, and perhaps puzzling, growth rate has been among Jains—from 4.6% to 26%. In the same period, Sikhs' growth rate declined by a significant 6.1%, from 24.3% to 18.2%, while Buddhists' growth rate dipped even more sharply—by 10.6%, from 35.1% to 24.5%. The Christian growth rate has, however, gone up by 1.1%, from 21.5% to 22.6%.

Literacy-wise, Jains top the list with 94.1%, followed by Christians at 80.3%, Buddhists 72.7%, Sikhs 69.4%, Hindus 65.1% and Muslims 59.1%. The national average for literacy is 64.8%. For female literacy, the national average is expectedly lower at 53.7%. Jains take the lead with a female literacy figure of 90.6%, followed by Christians at 76.2%, Sikhs 63.1%, Buddhists 61.7%, Hindus 53.2% and Muslims 50.1%.

At the national level, among the major religious groups, Christians had the highest sex ratio of 1009, growing from 994 in 1991. They are followed by Buddhists (953) and Jains (940). Sikhs have the lowest sex ratio (893) among all major religious communities. The sex ratio among Hindus is 931, a shade lower than the national average of 933, while that among Muslims is 936. 'Other religions and persuasions', the term that clubs together various smaller groups like the Parsis, the Jews and animists, do rather well (992) on this count.

Excluding the Muslims of J&K from the 2001 figures, the growth of the Muslim population from 1991 to 2001 was 29.3%, significantly lower than the near 33% growth figure of 1981-91. The adjusted Hindu growth rate comes to 19.9%.

**Languages:** India is a country of hundreds of languages and dialects. The 1961 census had listed 16,752 languages as mother tongues spoken in the country. Of these mother tongues, only 33 are spoken by one lakh or more people, the others being minor ones.

India's official language, as prescribed in Article 343 of the Constitution, is Hindi in Devanagari script. Eighteen regional languages are officially recognised by the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. These are: (in alphabetical order) Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Konkani, Kashmiri, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Tamil, Telegu and Urdu.

Article 343 also provided that for a period of 15 years from the commencement of the Constitution, the English language would continue to be used for all official purposes of the Union. In view of the demand from the Southern States, which were reluctant to accept Hindi as the country's sole national language, English was continued as an additional official language. No date was fixed for elimination of English and adoption of Hindi as the language for official use throughout the country.

**Constitution and Political set-up:** India is a Union of 28 States and 6 Union Territories, including National Capital Region Delhi, the largest in area being Rajasthan and the smallest being Sikkim.

India is a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic Republic with a parliamentary system of government. The country's Constitution came into force from January 26, 1950. The overall structure is federal with several features of the unitary system.

Article 79 of the Constitution says that the Parliament shall consist of the President and two Houses known as the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) and House of the People (Lok Sabha).

Though the President is not a member of either House, he is an integral part of the Parliament and performs certain functions relating to its proceedings.

The Parliament has the following functions: a) to make legislations for development and for benefit of society, b) exercise control over the Executive, c) it supplies members of the Council of Ministers, d) it has financial control over the Executive and e) provides an opportunity to deliberate various policies and measures before implementation.

**Rajya Sabha:** The Rajya Sabha consists of two categories of members, elected and nominated. They have a term of six years, and one-third of the members retire every two years. Article 80 says that the Rajya Sabha will consist of a) 12 members to be nominated by the President and b) not more than 238 representatives of the States and Union Territories. At present the strength of the Rajya Sabha is 245, of which 233 are elected and 12 nominated. The persons to be nominated by the President shall consist of persons having special knowledge or experience, such as literature, science, art and social service. The Vice-President is the ex-officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. The Deputy Chairman is elected by the Rajya Sabha from among its members.

**Lok Sabha:** Members of the Lok Sabha are elected by the people of India, except for two members of the Anglo-Indian community nominated by the President. In the Constitution, the strength of the Lok Sabha was provisioned to be not more than 552, with 530 members from States, 20 from Union Territories and 2 nominated from among the Anglo-Indian community. The Parliament has fixed the strength of the Lok Sabha to be 545 (530 + 13 + 2). The 42nd Amendment had frozen the representation of States and UTs at 543 till the year 2001. The 91st Amendment further extended the freeze till 2026, as an incentive aimed at population stabilisation. However, readjustment and rationalisation of territorial constituencies within the States has been allowed. This means that while the number of constituencies allotted to each State will remain constant, the territorial boundaries of the constituencies will be redrawn to balance out the electorate represented by each of them.

The normal tenure of the Lok Sabha is 5 years. But the House can be dissolved by the President before the end of the normal tenure. It can also be extended by the Parliament beyond the normal 5-year term during a national emergency proclaimed under Article 352. This extension is not more than one year at a time. Under Article 83 the normal tenure was 5 years, which was extended to 6 years by the 42nd Amendment but the 44th Amendment again fixed the normal tenure of 5 years.

To become a member of Lok Sabha, a person must: a) be a citizen of India, b) be not less than 25 years of age, c) be a registered voter in any Parliamentary constituency, and d) should not hold any office of profit.

The Speaker is the Chief Presiding officer of the Lok Sabha. He is elected from among the members of the Lok Sabha but continues to hold office even after dissolution of the House. He is responsible for the dignity and privileges of the House since the Speaker represents the Lok Sabha as an institution.

The quorum to constitute a meeting of either House of Parliament is one tenth of the total number of members of the House.

The Constitution states that there should not be a gap of more than 6 months between two consecutive sittings. There are 3 types of sessions:

- a) Budget session, between February and May
- b) monsoon session, July-August
- c) winter session, November-December

The Lok Sabha can be dissolved by the President but the Rajya Sabha is a permanent body not subject to dissolution.

**50 years of Lok Sabha:** 2002 marked the 50th year of the constituting of the Lok Sabha. The official notification of the constituting of Lok Sabha was made on April 17, 1952. During the first two years it was known as 'House of People'. It began to be known as Lok Sabha on May 14, 1954.

**Presidential Elections:** The President of India is the Constitutional head of the executive. He is elected for five years by an electoral college comprising all elected M.P.s and M.L.A.s. The real power rests with the Council of Ministers headed by the Prime Minister, as provided in Article 74(1). The Ministry is collectively responsible to the House of the People (Lok Sabha).

Similarly, in the States the Governor is the executive head, but all effective power rests with the Ministry, which is collectively responsible to the State Legislative Assembly.

The Vice-President is elected by an electoral college consisting of members of both Houses of Parliament.

The legislative powers are distributed between the Parliament and the State legislatures, the residual powers being vested in the Parliament.

The Parliament comprises two Houses, the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha (with a total strength of 244 of whom 12 are nominated for distinction in arts, science and social service).

**State Executive:** The Governor is the executive head of the State and acts on the advice of the Council of Ministers of the State. Generally one Governor is appointed for each State but after the 7th Amendment (1956), a Governor could be appointed for two States. The Governor is appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Council of Ministers at the Union. A Governor must: a) be a citizen of India, b) must have completed 35 years of age, c) must not hold any office of profit and d) if an MP is appointed as Governor, his seat becomes vacant.

**Fundamental Rights and Directives:** Several basic freedoms are guaranteed by the Chapter on



Fundamental Rights (Part III of the Constitution, Articles 12 to 35) which are justiciable (can be enforced by courts). The Constitution also lays down certain Directive Principles of State Policy (Part IV of the Constitution, Articles 36 to 51) which are not justiciable but are important guidelines and are fundamental to the governance of the country. It is the duty of the State to apply these principles in making laws. These Directives require the State to strive to promote the welfare of the people by securing and protecting, as effectively as it may, a social order in which justice, social, economic and political, shall inform all the institutions of national life.

In a judgement delivered on July 1, 1993, the Supreme Court ruled that the Right to Life (Art. 21) included the right to livelihood. Arbitrary dismissal of an employee after paying him one month's salary in lieu of statutory notice was held to be violative of the Constitutional rights guaranteed under Articles 14 and 21.

The Fundamental Duties of citizens are enumerated by the 42nd Amendment (Article 51A), enjoining upon every citizen to follow the noble ideals of the founding fathers and promote harmony and brotherhood among all the people.

The Constitution is supreme, not the Parliament. The Supreme Court, the final tribunal of appeal, has the authority to adjudicate on the constitutionality of any law passed by the Parliament.

## Capitals Of Countries

Afghanistan: Kabul  
Albania: Tirana  
Algeria: Algiers  
Angola: Luanda  
Antigua & Barbuda: St John's  
Argentina: Buenos Aires  
Armenia: Yerevan  
Australia: Canberra  
Austria : Vienna  
Azerbaijan: Baku  
Bahamas: Nassau  
Bahrain: Manama  
Bangladesh: Dhaka  
Barbados: Bridgetown  
Belgium: Brussels  
Belarus: Minsk  
Belize: Belmopan  
Benin: Porto Novo  
Bhutan: Thimpu  
Bosnia-Herzegovina : Sarajevo  
Botswana: Gaborone  
Bolivia: La Paz  
Brazil: Brasilia  
Brunei: Bandar Seri Begawan  
Bulgaria: Sofia  
Burkina Faso: Ouagadougou  
Burundi : Bujumbura  
Cambodia: Phnom Penh  
Cameroon: Yaounde  
Canada: Ottawa  
Cape Verde: Praia  
Central African Republic: Bangui  
Chad: N'Djamena  
Chile: Santiago  
China: Beijing  
Colombia: Bogota  
Congo: Brazzaville  
Costa Rica: San Jose  
Croatia: Zagreb  
Cuba: Havana  
Cyprus: Nicosia  
Czech Republic: Prague  
Denmark: Copenhagen  
Djibouti : Djibouti  
Dominican Republic: Santo Domingo  
East Timor: Dili  
Ecuador: Quito  
Egypt: Cairo

Lesotho: Maseru  
Liberia: Monrovia  
Libya: Tripoli  
Liechtenstein: Vaduz  
Lithuania: Vilnius  
Luxembourg: Luxembourg  
Macedonia: Skopje  
Madagascar: Antananarivo  
Malawi: Lilongwe  
Malaysia: Kuala Lumpur  
Maldives: Male  
Mali: Bamako  
Malta: Valletta  
Mauritius: Port Louis  
Mauritania: Nouakchott  
Mexico: Mexico City  
Moldova: Chisinau  
Monaco: Monaco  
Mongolia: Ulaanbaatar  
Morocco: Rabat  
Mozambique: Lourenco Marques  
Myanmar (Burma): Yangon  
Namibia: Windhoek  
Nauru: Yaren  
Nepal : Kathmandu  
Netherlands: Amsterdam  
New Zealand : Wellington  
Niger: Niamey  
Nigeria: Abuja  
Northern Ireland: Belfast  
Norway : Oslo  
Oman: Muscat  
Pakistan: Islamabad  
Palau: Koror  
Palestine: Jericho (Headquarters)  
Panama: Panama City  
Papua New Guinea: Port Moresby  
Paraguay: Asuncion  
Peru: Lima  
Philippines: Manila  
Poland: Warsaw  
Portugal: Lisbon  
Qatar: Doha  
Romania: Bucharest  
Russia: Moscow  
Rwanda: Kigali  
Saudi Arabia: Riyadh  
Senegal: Dakar

Equatorial Guinea: Santa Isabel  
Eritrea: Asmara  
Estonia: Tallion  
Ethiopia: Addis Ababa  
Fiji: Suva  
Finland: Helsinki  
France: Paris  
Gabon: Libreville  
Gambia: Banjul  
Georgia: Tbilisi  
Germany: Berlin  
Ghana: Accra  
Greece: Athens  
Grenada: St George's  
Guatemala: Guatemala City  
Guinea: Conakry  
Guinea-Bissau: Bissau  
Guyana: Georgetown  
Honduras: Tegucigalpa  
Hungary: Budapest  
India: New Delhi  
Indonesia: Jakarta  
Iran: Tehran  
Iraq: Baghdad  
Ireland (or Eire): Dublin  
Israel: Jerusalem  
Italy: Rome  
Ivory Coast: Abidjan  
Jamaica: Kingston  
Japan: Tokyo  
Jordan: Amman  
Kenya: Nairobi  
Kazakhstan: Alma-Ata  
Kirghizstan: Bishkek  
Kiribati: Tarawa  
Korea (North): Pyongyang  
Korea (South): Seoul  
Latvia: Riga  
Laos: Vientiane  
Lebanon: Beirut

Serbia: Belgrade  
Seychelles: Victoria  
Sierra Leone: Freetown  
Singapore: Singapore City  
Slovakia: Bratislava  
Slovenia: Ljubljana  
South Africa: Pretoria and Cape Town  
Somalia: Mogadishu  
Spain: Madrid  
Sri Lanka: Colombo  
Sudan: Khartoum  
Suriname: Paramaribo  
Swaziland: Mbabane  
Sweden: Stockholm  
Switzerland: Berne  
Syria: Damascus  
Tajikistan: Dushanbe  
Taiwan: Taipei  
Tanzania: Dodoma  
Thailand: Bangkok  
Togo: Lome  
Tonga: Nuku'alofa  
Trinidad and Tobago: Port-of-Spain  
Tunisia: Tunis  
Turkey: Ankara  
Turkmenistan: Ashkhabad  
Uganda: Kampala  
Ukraine: Kiev  
United Arab Emirates: Abu Dhabi  
United Kingdom: London  
Upper Volta: Ouagadougou  
Uruguay: Montevideo  
U.S.A.: Washington  
Uzbekistan: Tashkent  
Vanuatu: Port Vila  
Vietnam: Hanoi  
Western Samoa: Apia  
Yemen: Sana'a  
Zaire Republic: Kinshasa  
Zambia: Lusaka  
Zimbabwe: Harare

## **World Geography- Important Boundary Lines**

### **Durand Line :**

Between Pakistan and Afghanistan, demarcated by Sir Mortimer Durand in 1896.

### **Hindenberg Line :**

The line to which the Germans retreated in 1917 during the First World War, defines the boundary between Germany and Poland.

### **Line of Control :**

It divides Kashmir between India and Pakistan.

### **Maginot Line :**

Boundary between France and Germany.

### **Mannerheim Line :**

Drawn by General Mannerheim; fortification on the Russia and Finland border.

### **McMahon Line :**

The boundary between India and China as demarcated by Sir Henry McMahon in 1914. China does not recognise this line.

### **Oder Nisse Line :**

Boundary between Germany and Poland.

### **Radcliffe Line :**

Drawn by Sir Cyril Radcliffe in 1947 as demarcation between India and Pakistan.

### **Seigfried Line :**

Line of fortification drawn by Germany on its border with France.

### **17th Parallel :**

The line which defined the boundary between North Vietnam and South Vietnam before the two were united.

### **24th Parallel :**

The line which Pakistan claims should be the demarcation between India and Pakistan.

### **38th Parallel :**

Boundary between North Korea and South Korea.

**49th Parallel :**

Boundary between USA and Canada.

## **Wild Life Facts**

### **MAMMALS • REPTILES • AMPHIBIANS • FISH • INSECTS • BIRDS**

#### **MAMMALS**

Largest and Heaviest

Blue Whale  
Average length 30.5 m  
Largest ever recorded 33.58 m  
Pregnant female may weigh 203 tones

Smallest Land Mammal

Kitti's hog-nosed Bat (Found in Thailand)<sup>2</sup>  
Wing span 16 cm  
weight 1.75 to 2 g

Smallest Marine Mammal

Probably Heaviside's dolphin (Found in South Atlantic)  
Length 1.22 m  
Weight 41 kg

Rarest Mammal Rarest Mammal

A species of tenrec from Madagascar is only known from a single specimen.

Fastest Mammal

Cheetah (found in Africa, Middle East, W. Asia) can run at 100 kph over short distances.  
Pronhorn antelope (Found in USA)  
Can run at 60 kph over long distances.

Slowest Mammal

Three-toed sloth (found in South America) covers about 5 m a minute in trees, and only 2 m a minute on the ground.

Highest Mammal

Yak (found in Tibet and China) climbs to 6000 m to feed.

#### **REPTILES**

Largest and Heaviest

Estuarine Crocodile (found in Asia, Australia)  
Average length (male) up to 4.3 m  
Longest ever recorded 8.23 m

Largest Lizard	Komodo dragon (found in Indonesian Island) length up to 3 m
largest Turtle	Pacific leatherback turtle Average length (male) up to 2.13 m weight up to 363 kg.
Fastest Amphibian (On Land)	Six-lined racerunner (found in USA) can run at 29 kph
Fastest Amphibian (In Water)	(In Water) Pacific Leatherback turtle can swim at 35 kph
Longest Snake	Reticulated Python (found in India and South-east Asia) Average length more than 6 m Longest ever recorded 10 m
Most Poisonous Snake	Sea Snake (found in North West Australia)
Most Poisonous Land Snake	Fierce Snake (found in Australia) has most toxic venom.
<b>AMPHIBIANS</b>	
Largest Amphibian	Chinese gaint salamander Average length 1m Longest ever recorded 1.52 m Weight 11 to 13 kg.
Largest Frog	Goliath Frog (found in Africa) Length of body 33.5 cm
Largest Toad	Probably marine toad (found in South America) Length 22.9 cm.
Largest Newt	Ribbed newt (found in Africa) Length upto 40 cm Weight 450 g

Highest Toad	Common toad One found in Himalayas at 8000 m
Most Poisonous	Kokoiarrow-poison frog (found in South America) A tiny amount of toxin is enough to kill a man.
Smallest Newt	Striped newt (found in USA) length 5.1 cm
<b>BIRDS</b>	
Largest Bird (Flightless)	North African Ostrich Height (male) 2.74 m Weight 156.5 kg eggs up to 20 cm long
Largest Wing Span	Wandering albatross (found in Southern Oceans) Average length (male) 3.15 m Largest ever recorded 3.6 m
Smallest Bird	Helena's humming bird (found in Cuba) Average length (male) 5.8 cm (head and body 1.5 cm) Weight 2 g Egg 1.14 cm long
Rarest Bird	Mauritius Kestrel (found in Mauritius) About 5 are thought to remain.
Fastest Bird	Spine-tailed swift (found in Russia and Himalayas) flies at 171 kph
Longest Flight	Arctic tern May cover 40,000 km a year migrating from Arctic to Antarctic and back.
Fastest Under Water	Gentoo Penguin swims at 36 kph
Largest Nest	Bald eagles



	one was 2.9 m wide and 6 m deep.
<b>FISHES</b>	
Largest Fish (Plankton-eating)	Whale Shark Largest ever recorded 18.5 m long.
Largest Fish (Meat Eating)	Great white shark (the man-eater) Average length up to 4.57 m.
Heaviest Bony Fish	Ocean sunfish is the heaviest largest ever recorded 2.28 tonnes.
Longest Bony Fish	Russian sturgeon or Beluga Length up to 8 m
Fastest Fish	Probably Sailfish fastest ever recorded 109 kph
Most Poisonous Fish	Stonefish (found in Indian and Pacific Oceans) Poison carried in spines can cause a person's death within a few hours.
Most Electric	Electric eel (found in South America) can produce 400 to 500 volts.
<b>INSECTS</b>	
Largest Insect	Goliath beetle (found in Africa) Weight (male) 100g
Longest Insect	Tropical stick insect Length up to 33 cm
Largest locust Swarn	A Swarn of desert locusts that crossed the Red Sea in 1889. Swarn estimated to contain 250,000,000 insects weighing about 500,000 tonnes and covering 5,000 sq. km

Largest Butterfly	Queen Alexandra bird wing (found in Guinea) Wing span 28 cm, weight 5 g
Most Dangerous Ant	Black bulldog ant (found in Australia and Tasmaina) One bite can kill a man.
Fastest Wing Beat	A tiny midge can beat its wings 1000 times a second.

## **Physical Geography**

## **The Earth—Its Motions and their Effects**

The earth has two motions, viz., (1) Rotation around its axis or the daily motion. The axis of the earth is an imaginary line inclined at  $66.5^\circ$  to the plane of the orbit of the earth. The earth rotates round its axis from west to east once in 24 hours. Effects: Days and nights are caused. The sun, moon and other heavenly bodies appear to revolve round the earth from east to west. Direction of winds and currents is changed.

(2) Revolution round the sun on its orbit, or the annual motion: The earth revolves round the sun once in about 365.25 days. Effects: It causes seasons; days and nights are of unequal length at the same place.

## **Important elements in the earth's crust**

The five most abundant elements in the earth's crust are: Oxygen, Silicon, Aluminium, Iron and Calcium. (The other three are Sodium, Potassium and Magnesium.)

## **Oceans—Their Importance**

Oceans are the source of all water on earth as the evaporated water from over their surface is brought to earth by the winds passing over them. They are the highways of the world and most of the world trade is carried through the sea. Innumerable fish and other animals living in the oceans are a great source of food to mankind. Minerals like salt, iodine etc. are derived from the ocean waters and sea-weeds.

**Ocean Currents:** are rivers of warm or cold water flowing in an ocean. Their banks and beds also consist of water.

## **Natural Regions**

A natural region is a large area in which the topography, climate and vegetation are largely similar, and therefore there is a certain uniformity in human activities.

## **Natural Regions of the World**

(1) Equatorial Region (2) Hot-Grassland Region (3) Monsoon Region (4) Hot Deserts Region (5) Mediterranean Region (6) Steppe Region (7) Tundra Region (8) Warm Temperate Region (9) Cool Temperate Region.

## **Natural Regions of India**

(1) The Himalayas and the adjacent mountains; (2) The Sutlej-Ganga plains; (3) The coastal plains of Western and Eastern ghats; (4) The Deccan plateau.

## **Factors Determining Climate of a Place**

(1) Distance from the Equator (2) Height above sea-level (3) Distance from the sea (4) Winds (5) Direction of Mountains (6) Ocean currents (7) Slope of land (8) Nature of the soil (9) Forests.

## **Factors Determining Temperature**

(i) sun rays, (ii) height above sea-level (iii) movements of atmospheric winds, (iv) ocean currents.

## **Rainfall**

Two important conditions must be satisfied in order to have rain: (1) There should be moisture-laden air, (2) There should be some means whereby air is cooled and condensation takes place. The air obtains water vapours by evaporation from the surface of large bodies of water, usually from the sea.

## **Monsoons in India**

Monsoons are periodic winds which blow from sea to land for six months in summer and from land to sea for six months in winter. Monsoon winds prevail over India at different seasons.

**South-West Monsoons:** These are rain-bearing winds which prevail from about the end of May to the end of September. During summer, the sun's rays fall vertically on the Tropic of Cancer making the Indian plains intensely hot. But the rays of the sun fall obliquely over the Indian Ocean during this period. The land is hotter than the sea, there is, therefore, low pressure over the land and high pressure over the sea. The winds blow from high to low pressure i.e., from the sea to the land, and are therefore wet winds. Because of the rotation of the earth, the monsoon winds blowing over India deflect to the right after crossing the Equator and become south-west winds. These are, therefore, called south-west monsoons.

India depends largely on these rain-bearing south-west winds. These winds give to India about 90% of the total rainfall. During their prevalence, the chief crops cultivated are rice, cotton, tobacco, tea, jawar and bajra.

**North-East Monsoons (or Winter Monsoons):** During the months of November to January i.e., in winter, the sun's rays fall vertically on the Tropic of Capricorn. The air over the Indian Ocean during this period thus becomes hot and light and there is low pressure. The sun's rays fall obliquely on the plains of India during these months with the result that the air over these plains is cold and heavy and there is high pressure. The winds, therefore, blow from plains to the Indian Ocean. While crossing the Equator, they deflect to the left and are known as north-east monsoons.

The North-East Monsoons bring only about 10% of the total rain to India as they are chilly and dry land winds. But the moisture that they pick from the Bay of Bengal, little as it is, is very useful. Wheat, barley, oats, oilseeds and sugarcane are cultivated during this season.

Thus these monsoon winds have much importance for India.

## **Weather and Climate**

Weather means the atmospheric conditions e.g., temperature, rainfall, humidity, winds, sunshine and cloudiness of a particular place on a particular day. Climate, on the other hand, is the average condition of weather obtaining in a country or a place for a considerable period.

India has a great diversity of climatic conditions. Lying largely within the tropics and in the great Asiatic Continent and the vast expanse of the Indian Ocean to the South, the climate of India is essentially the tropical monsoon type. The average annual rainfall in India is 42 inches.

## **Types of Soil in India**

The main categories of soils in India are: (i) Alluvial soils (ii) Black soils (iii) Red soils (iv) Laterite soils (v) Mountain and hill soils (vi) Terai soils (vii) Desert (or Arid) soil and (viii) Peat soils.

### **Alluvial soil and Black soil**

Alluvial soil is that soil which is formed by deposition of silts brought down by the rivers. It is rich in hydrated oxides of iron and is very fertile. Black soil or the black cotton soil has a good water-holding capacity and is best suited for deep-rooted crops like cotton. The black soil in wet condition is compact and sticky.

The most extensive soil cover of India comprises alluvial soils.

**Soil Erosion:** The soils are usually six to twelve inches in depth. In course of time, the fertility level of the soil is depleted with the result that the soil no longer remains suitable for agriculture. Soil conservation is, therefore, necessary for continued agricultural prosperity.

The agencies of erosion are winds, water and waves of which the water erosion is most common. Rain water removes soil from the surface of sloping lands. Winds remove top soil of lands.

**Laterite soils** are formed by the weathering of laterite rocks. These can be distinguished from other soils by their acidity. Laterite soils are generally poor on the higher levels and cannot retain moisture. In the plains, however, they consist of heavy loams and clay and can retain moisture.

Laterite soils occur in Madhya Pradesh, Assam and along the Eastern and Western Ghats. Tea plantation requires acidity which is there in the laterite soil. It is, therefore, common in these areas.

### **Star and Planet**

Star is the name given to a fixed celestial body which has its own light whereas Planet is the name given to a celestial body which revolves round the sun in elliptical (regular oval shape) orbit. A planet has no light of its own but reflects the light of the sun.

### **Rocks**

Three main groups of rocks: Igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic.

#### **Classification of rocks**

**Igneous rocks:** granite.

**Sedimentary rocks:** sandstone; limestone; shale; coal.

**Metamorphic rocks:** marble.

**Phyllite:** This rock is formed by deposits of animal shells and skeletons.

### **Land Breeze and Sea Breeze**

**Land Breeze:** At night, land masses cool quicker than the sea. Therefore, in calm, cloudless weather, an air-stream passes from the land to the sea. This breeze carries no moisture, and is a little warm.

**Sea Breeze:** In day-time, the land is hotter than the sea. The air over it rises, and is replaced by a cool breeze from the sea carrying some moisture.

### **Tides**

Alternate rise and fall of waters of the ocean twice in the course of nearly twenty four hours is termed as “tides”. The tides are caused by the gravitational force exerted by the moon and to a lesser degree by the sun, on the earth. The tides do not always rise to the same height. At the time of the new and full moon, when the sun and moon are in a straight line with the earth, the tides rise higher and are known as Spring Tides. Midway between new and full moon when the sun and the moon are at right angles as to their direction from the earth, tides are at the lowest height and are called Neap Tides.

#### **Spring Tides and Neap Tides**

When a high tide is caused twice a month at new moon and again when the moon is full, spring tide is caused as a result of combined attraction of the sun and the moon.

When the high tide is not so high, nor the low tide so low, neap tides are caused as a result of the difference of attraction of the sun and the moon.

### **Seasons**

The change of seasons is due to (i) revolution of the earth round the sun (ii) inclination of earth's axis at  $66.5^\circ$  to the plane of its orbit and always pointing to the same direction. On the 21st June, the North Pole is inclined towards the sun and the South Pole is inclined away from it. The rays of the sun fall

perpendicularly at the Tropic of Cancer ( $23.5^{\circ}$  North) and fall comparatively slanting in the southern hemisphere. Hence the days are longer than nights in the northern hemisphere and it is summer there. Just opposite is the case in the southern hemisphere where the nights are longer at that time and it is winter there.

### **Latitudes and Longitudes**

India lies entirely to the north of the Equator, between latitudes  $8^{\circ}-4'$  and  $37^{\circ}-6'$  north and longitude  $68^{\circ}-7'$  and  $97^{\circ}-25'$  east.

The latitude of the South Pole is  $90^{\circ}$ . South Pole has no longitude.

Longitude of a place is its distance east or west of a fixed meridian. The distance of any place north or south of the Equator is called the Latitude of that place.

**Parallels of latitude:** are lines drawn on a map (or globe) showing the latitude of a place.

**Meridians (or lines) of longitude:** These are lines drawn on a map (or globe) showing the longitude of a place. These lines join the north and south pole cutting the Equator at right angles.

*(Latitudes and Longitudes should be clearly distinguished from Parallels of Latitude and Meridians of Longitude respectively.)*

By knowing these lines, we can find out exact location of a place. By knowing the latitude of a place we can find out its average temperature, as also its distance from the Equator. By knowing the longitude of a place, we can calculate its local time.

Longitude is the angular distance of a place east or west of the prime meridian. The earth rotates upon its axis once in 24 hours and covers  $360^{\circ}$  in 24 hours. Thus it takes  $60 \times 24/360$  or 4 minutes to cover a degree of longitude or we may say that in four minutes, the earth moves through  $1^{\circ}$ . There is thus a difference of 4 minutes for each degree of longitude. This fact is used for determining the longitude of a place. All longitudes are measured from the meridian of Greenwich.

We can **determine the latitude of a place** in the northern hemisphere by measuring the altitude of the Pole Star. The altitude of the Pole Star is the latitude of that place. For example, if the altitude of Pole Star at Delhi is  $28.5^{\circ}$  North, its latitude will also be  $28.5^{\circ}$ N. The altitude of Pole Star is measured by an instrument called Sextant.

### **Solar Eclipse and Lunar Eclipse**

**Solar Eclipse:** is the partial or complete obscuration of the sun because of the passage of the moon in front of it i.e., when the moon comes in between the sun and the earth.

The moon then appears as a dark object obscuring the sun. Over a small portion of the earth's surface, the moon is seen to blot out the sun completely and a total eclipse is seen by the people in that particular area. But over most of the earth's surface, the eclipse seen is partial because only a portion of the sun's face remains covered by the moon.

**Lunar Eclipse:** is the partial or complete obscuration of the moon's surface when the earth comes in between the sun and the moon. The moon, when it moves through the shadow of the earth, loses its bright direct illumination by the sun, although its disc still remains faintly visible.

An eclipse of the moon is visible and presents the same features at all places on the earth where the moon is above the horizon. The lunar eclipse can be seen with the naked eye, field glass or a small telescope.

The lunar eclipse occurs at full moon only when the earth comes in between the sun and the moon which phenomenon does not occur at every full moon.

### **Indian Standard Time**

The Indian Standard Time is a uniform time adopted by all places in India without regard to their local time. It is usual for each country to have its standard time for use over the whole country as it would be very difficult if every town or village had its own local time and whenever we moved from one place to another, we should have to alter our watches.

**Indian Standard Time** is the local time of a place near Allahabad situated at 82.5° East longitude.

### **Winds**

Air moving from one direction to another horizontally is called wind. It is the air in motion.

**Cause of Wind:** The chief cause of winds is difference in pressure. Air always moves from region of high pressure to a region of low pressure to equalize the pressure. For example, the low pressure belt round the Equator is a region of calm known as the doldrums. Although there are no regular winds there, violent squalls and thunderstorms are frequent which come from high pressure areas north and south of the Equator.

**Direction of Winds:** As the earth is rotating daily on its axis from west to east, all winds are deflected. According to Ferrel's Law, winds are deflected to the right in Northern Hemisphere and to the left in the Southern Hemisphere.

### **Characteristics of the important Wind Systems of the World:**

**1. Trade Winds:** The rays of the sun fall almost vertically at the Equator and the air there becomes hot and the pressure is low. The air rises towards the Poles and descends near 30°N and 30°S. The pressure is high near 30°N and 30°S. Because winds blow from high-pressure to low-pressure areas, winds from over these altitudes blow towards the Equator and Trade Winds are caused.

**2. Westerlies (or Anti-Trade Winds):** are winds which blow from about 40 degrees N to the Arctic Circle and from about 35 degrees S to the Antarctic Circle throughout the year. They derive their name from the direction in which they blow. In the northern hemisphere they blow in the south-westerly direction and bring winter rain to the Mediterranean regions etc. In the southern hemisphere, they blow in a north-westerly direction.

**3. Polar Winds:** The winds which blow from the high pressure area around the poles towards the temperate regions are known as polar winds. They are extremely cold. They rise from the North West in the Northern Hemisphere and from the South East in the Southern Hemisphere.

**4. Periodical Winds:** These are (i) Land and Sea Breezes and (ii) Monsoons which blow in one direction at a particular time or during a particular season. In the hot season in India, the sun shines vertically over the Tropic of Cancer, i.e., roughly over the great plains of the Ganges and Brahmaputra so that the air over the plains becomes very hot by about the month of May. At this time, South West Monsoon commences to blow. They bring heavy rains. Monsoon winds prevail over India at different seasons. India depends on the rain-bearing south-west winds which prevail from about the end of May to the end of September. These winds bring to India about 90% of all the rain that falls there.



**5. Variable Winds:** are the irregular winds as Cyclones and Anti-Cyclones.

### **Rainfall**

There is heavy rainfall on the West coast because the Western Ghat ranges receive the full force of the monsoons from the Arabian sea and there is heavy rainfall (about 100 inches). On the other hand, the Deccan Plateau gets very scanty rainfall because it falls within the rain-shadow area.

Chennai gets winter rainfall as the north-east monsoons which blow in winter pick up moisture from the Bay of Bengal and bring rain to that city.

The Bay of Bengal monsoons first bring rain to the eastern parts and then turn westwards. As Kolkata is in the east, it receives more rainfall. As the monsoons blow westwards they become drier and cause less rainfall. So Delhi does not get as much rainfall as Kolkata.

In the northern region, the Bay of Bengal monsoons first bring rain to eastern parts and then turn westwards. As the monsoons blow westwards, they go on losing moisture and cause decreasing rainfall.

In the southern region, the Arabian Sea monsoons first strike the western ghats and the moisture is drained on the western side whereas rainfall goes on decreasing towards eastern region.

**Two important conditions must be satisfied in order to have rain:** (1) There should be moisture-laden air, (2) There should be some means whereby air is cooled and condensation takes place. The air obtains water vapours by evaporation from the surface of large bodies of water, usually from the sea.

The moisture-laden air is cooled in two ways: (i) by rising upward into colder upper regions of the atmosphere, (ii) by blowing as wind to colder regions.

Thus we see: (a) Moist air is lighter than dry air and so it readily rises, expands in a short time, cools and falls. (b) When warm winds blow towards cooler regions, it is condensed by cooling effect and rain falls. (c) The land masses or mountains also tend to condense water vapours. When moisture-laden wind is obstructed by mountains, it is forced to rise. As it rises, it becomes cool and rainfall results.

### **Rivers**

The work of a river is three-fold:

**(i) The Mountain Stage:** The mountain or upper course of a river is swift as the slope at this stage of a river is steep. The main work of a river at this stage is denudation (wearing away). In this swift upper course, the rivers carry big stones, pebbles etc. which go on eroding the sides and beds of the valleys. As time goes on, the river cuts away the spurs on both sides and the valleys become wider and deeper. The mountain stage of the Ganges in India extends from its source up to Hardwar.

**(ii) The Plain Stage:** In this stage the river moves slowly as the slope is gradual and its main work is transportation (navigation) and irrigation. The plain stage of the Ganges extends from Hardwar to Bhagalpur.

**(iii) The Delta Stage:** This is the last stage and the rivers are very slow at this stage. In this slow lower or deltaic course, the main work of the river is deposition. The level of the bed at this stage rises due to mud and silt brought by it and deposited into several channels before falling into the sea. The Ganges forms her delta from Bhagalpur up to the sea.

The deltas are not formed at the mouths of rivers where tides carry away all the mud and silt deposited (at the mouth) e.g., the Narmada and the Tapi do not form any delta. Also rivers which deposit all their mud into the lakes through which they pass do not form delta e.g., the St Lawrence in Canada.

**Estuary** is formed at the mouth of a river where tidal effects are evident and where fresh water and sea water mix. In most cases it is due to subsidence of coastal low-land.

**Delta** is the triangular piece of land formed by the deposition of mud and silt near the mouth of a river. In the case of delta formation, more solid material is deposited which cannot be removed by tidal or other currents.

The rivers of Northern India are more important than those of Southern India because they have a flow of water throughout the year. Even in summer these rivers receive water from the melting of Himalayan snow. Flowing through broad basins, they form large tracts of rich alluvial soil on either side. It is no wonder, therefore, that their fertile basin are the natural granaries of the country. Further, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra are navigable and provide excellent waterways for commerce. The Peninsular rivers, on the other hand, have water during the monsoons but shrivel into muddy pools in the dry season. These rivers are of little use for navigation on account of their torrential nature in the upper course, and the rapids that occur where they descend into deep gorges from the table land to the coastal plains.

### **Climate and Vegetation**

The **Equatorial type** climate, in which the temperature remains high all the year round but does not vary much, produces hot, wet forests.

The **Tropical type** climate produces grasslands which are found on either side of the equatorial belt where the rainfall usually occurs soon after the sun has been shining vertically while the dry season occurs in the colder part of the year.

The **lowlands** along the Tropic of Cancer lie mainly in the high-pressure belt just outside the Tropics. The Trade Winds blow away from these lowlands towards the Equator and the Westerly winds blow away from them towards the Poles. There are, therefore, no winds to bring rain to this region. Some of these lowlands are dry because these are very very far from the sea, like centre of Asia. There are few clouds and very little rain with the result that the sun's rays strike straight on the ground and make the days very hot.

The temperature of the ocean varies much less than that of land because (i) water has a higher specific heat than land with the result that it both absorbs and loses heat slowly as compared to land; and (ii) due to large surface of water at sea more evaporation occurs than on land. Evaporation causes cooling and this results in the sea having a lower temperature than that on land.

We may divide India into two parts for the purpose of climatological studies: (1) peninsular India and (2) Northern India. Peninsular India has the characteristic of tropical climate where "the temperature is uniformly high and seasonal variation relatively low".

The climatic conditions in Northern India have no general similarity. This region lies beyond the Tropic of Cancer. The Western part of it includes East Punjab and Rajasthan where air is devoid of moisture and it is hot in summer and very cold in winter. The eastern part of this region includes U.P., Bihar, Assam and West Bengal. Here winter is mild and summer is very hot with plenty of moisture in the air.

These climatic conditions are however, disturbed by two Monsoon Currents—the South West Monsoon and the North-East Monsoon. The South-West Monsoon causes heavy rainfall in Assam, West Bengal and U.P.

It begins to retreat from Northern India in early October and this retreat is completed by mid-December. During this retreat period the weather in Northern India becomes dry.

The North-East monsoons begin in January and last till March. These winds cause light rain in Northern India, particularly in the Punjab plains. This scanty rainfall is very important for Rabi crops.

**Vegetation:** Agriculture is the most important occupation of the people of India. In Northern India, typical monsoon land crops are grown such as rice in Bengal with its warm and humid climate; wheat and maize in Northern plains, Punjab and U.P.; jute in Bengal and Assam and tea in Assam.

In Peninsular India where regur or black cotton soil is found and sufficient moisture available, cotton is grown. It is the chief crop of the Deccan Peninsula—Mumbai and Berar being the chief producers. Coffee is grown on the Nilgiris in the South.

**Climatic Effect:** India has on the whole monsoon-tropical climate: ‘Monsoon—lands are dominated by the winds from sea to land in summer—the wet season and by winds from land to sea in winter—the dry season.’ This type of climate is not very conducive to health and vigour. Man’s well-being in such a climate depends largely on rainfall. The agricultural products do not grow if the monsoon fails and famine conditions break out. This dependence on rain, however, is not absolute owing to development of irrigation by means of projects, canals, wells etc.

The desert type climate is hot and dry. The rainfall is scanty, not more than 10 inches a year. The day and night temperatures vary to much extent. The evenings and afternoons are marked by hot dust storms.

The regions lie mainly in the high-pressure belts just outside the Tropics. The Trade Winds blow away from them towards the Equator and the Westerly Winds blow away from them towards the Poles. There are no winds which bring rain to this region and the climate remains hot and dry.

### **Mediterranean Climate**

It is the type of climate experienced by the lands bordering the Mediterranean Sea, and also by other regions, in both hemispheres, situated in a similar geographical position. The characteristic features are warmth of the summer, mildness of the winter, and ample sunshine.

The entire west coast of the United States has Mediterranean type of climate because this region gets winter rainfall from “Westerlies” winds.

### **Irrigation**

**Methods of Irrigation:** The various systems of irrigation used in India are: (1) Canals; (2) Wells; (3) Tube-wells; and (4) Tanks.

**Canals:** Canals are the most important of the systems of irrigation in India because:

(i) the rivers are snow-fed and never run dry; (ii) the plain has a soft and alluvial soil, so canals can be easily dug; (iii) the rainfall is insufficient for irrigation and wells alone cannot satisfy the needs of agriculturists.

Of the total irrigated land in India, 40 per cent is irrigated by canals.

**Wells:** Wells are found all over India but these are largely used in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Bihar. They are also used in Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. The reason for irrigation by wells is that the soil is porous and after a rainfall, water is stored up below the soil, and wells can be easily sunk.

**Tube-wells:** Irrigation by tube-wells has become very popular these days. Tube-wells are worked by electric power. These are much deeper than the ordinary wells. Due to shortage of power, the agriculturists do face the difficulty in running the tube-wells as and when they require but the prosperous ones are making use of the diesel engines for the purpose.

**Tanks:** Tanks are used in the Deccan plateau—especially in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and in some parts of Madhya Pradesh. They are made by filling natural hollows with water or by building dams across the river valleys. As the soil is rocky in these areas, it is not easy to sink wells. The soil is not porous and the rain water flows off; Canals cannot be constructed as the rivers are not snow-fed. So the tanks are the chief means of irrigation in the Deccan plateau.

### **Volcanoes and Earthquakes**

**Volcanoes:** By the pressure of the earth's crust the hot matter or lava in the interior of the earth is pressed down. It gushes out through a crack or a hole when it finds a weak spot in the crust and begins to accumulate round it. By and by it cools down and solidifies and in the course of several years these accumulated layers of lava build up a conical mountain. Such lava mountains are called volcanoes.

Volcanoes are also formed when rain or sea water percolates in the soil and sinks deep down into the earth where it is converted into steam by the internal heat and forces its way out of the crust bringing with it large quantity of lava etc.

**Earthquakes:** (i) When an active volcano bursts with great force or when a dormant volcano erupts into activity, the surrounding areas feel tremors and earthquake is caused. (ii) When the interior part of the earth cools down and contracts, the outer crust cracks or a part of it actually drops down causing earthquake. (iii) Sometimes water percolates deep down into the earth and is converted into steam on account of internal heat. This steam forces its way out by expanding and thus causes earthquake shocks.

### **Fold and Block Mountains**

**Fold Mountains:** These are formed as a result of series of earthquakes by which in course of a long time, rocks are folded up above the general level and the agents of denudation start to wear them away. The Himalayas, the Andes, the Alps are example of Fold Mountains.

**Block Mountains:** the formation of mountains when a mass of land is pushed up between several cracks, is known as Block Mountains as shown in the figure below. The narrow piece of the crust led down between two parallel cracks forms what is called "Rift Valley".

### **Mountain Ranges**

**Himalayas:** The Himalayan ranges stretch for about 2400 km from the eastern extremity of Assam to the western limit of Kashmir. Their width varies from 150 km to 450 km. These are fold mountains and consist of long lines of folded ranges.

**Arvalies:** It stretches from Gujarat in the west to Delhi in the north.

**Indian Plateau:** It is the table-land region of the Deccan lying south of the Indo-Gangetic Plain. It is bounded on the north by the ranges of Vindhyas and the Satpuras running east to west.

**Vindhyas and Satpura:** The Vindhyas lie north of the Narbada Valley, whereas the Satpuras Range lies south. Satpura ranges are an example of Volcanic mountains.

**Western Ghats:** In the west, the plateau is margined by the Western Ghats which rise abruptly from the Malabar and the Konkan coasts and run parallel to the sea coast with an average height of 1200 metres.

***Eastern Ghats:*** Towards the east are broken Eastern Ghats which descend to the low-lands of the Coromandal coast and are broken by a number of rivers, the most important of which are the Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Penner and Cauvery. These rivers flow south-east across the plateau to the Bay of Bengal.



## Animals & Plants

### **Animals, Mammals and Birds (and places where they are found)**

**Albatross:** Sea birds; North Pacific, off the American coast.

**Alpaca:** Animal found in Chile (South America).

**Anatolian goat:** Angora wool is sheered from this goat.

**Beaver:** found in Europe (Russia and Poland) and North America. It is a genus of mammals of the Rodentia order with short scaly ears and webbed hind feet and broad flat muscular tail. It attains a length of 2.5 to 3 ft. Its skin is of considerable commercial value. It is noted for ingenuity and industry in building houses and damming shallow streams. It is also valued for its reddish brown fur and a secretion castoreum (caster oil) used in medicines and perfumes.

**Camel:** Found in deserts of Arabia and India. It has long legs with padded feet, a long neck with a hump on its back. Its hump is made up of fat and is a store-house for food. It can also store water in the stomach and can go for days without a drink.

**Caribou:** is an animal, also called reindeer.

**Chameleon:** It is a family of lizards of which there are numerous species. The common chameleon is a native of Africa. It is about 12 inches long including tail. Chameleon is remarkable for its power of changing colour to resemble its surroundings when surprised—a power that is due to the presence of pigment bearing cells beneath the skin. It is slow in movement.

**Chamois:** a species of antelope and a native of Western Europe and Asia; from its flesh, chamois leather is made. It is not much larger than a goat and lives in mountainous regions. It possesses wonderful leaping power and is difficult to capture.

**Cheetah:** Found in India and Africa.

**Cod:** are well-known food-fish. These are found in abundance on the British coast and on the banks laying off Newfoundland. The extraction of oil which these cod fish yield forms an important industry.

**Corals:** Small marine animals closely related to sea-anemone, found mainly in the Mediterranean; also found in the Pacific and in the Indian Ocean.

**Dinosaur:** a group of extinct reptiles of the Mesozoic period, some of which were of immense size. Diplodocus is one of the best known of the extinct mammoth dinosaurs. Fossil remains have been discovered in the Jurassic rocks of the United States. Some reach a length of over 80 ft. Dinosaurs roamed the earth about 180 million years ago.

**Elephant:** Found in Africa and India. It is the largest existing quadruped 8 to 14 ft. in height weighing up to five tons. Usually dark grey in colour, small eyes, large ears and nose extending to form trunk which almost reaches the ground and is flexible. Both males and females have large ivory tusks of considerable commercial value. The Indian elephant is domesticated and used as a beast of burden. An elephant can carry up to 2,000 lbs. on long journeys maintaining a pace of about 6 km per hour.

**Emu:** running bird of Australia. It is the largest of living birds after the Ostrich.

**Giraffe:** Found in Africa and South Sahara except in the Congo forests. It is the tallest of existing animals reaching a height of 18 to 20 ft. when fully grown. It is of high fawn colour marked with dark spots and has a prehensile tongue. Its sloping back and elongated neck seem to be the natural evolution of an animal that has to feed on the branches of trees.

**Gnu:** Animal found in East Africa.

**Guano:** Bird; west coast of South America; Africa.

**Hamdaryad:** Large snake 12-14 ft. long extremely poisonous; found in India, Philippines and South China.

**Herring:** a common sea-fish abounding in northern seas and found in large numbers round the British coasts.

**Ibex:** wild goats of several species, the male having exceedingly curved ridged horns; found in the mountain regions of Europe, Asia and Africa.

**Llama:** a dwarf camel-like animal found in South America. It has no hump, but has a long neck and is



used as a beast of burden.

**Kangaroo:** is a pouched (marsupial) mammal of Australia and adjacent islands. It can leap in a succession of springly bounds 10-20 ft. long, the fore-feet not touching the ground. It can reach a height of over 6 ft.

**Kiwi:** flightless bird; found in New Zealand; now very rare. It is little larger than a domestic hen and lays astonishingly large eggs for their size. It is nocturnal in habit. Its feathers are hair-like and it has rudimentary wings concealed by the plumage.

**Koala:** Animal found in Australia.

**Ladybird:** It is an insect usually of a red or yellow colour with small coloured or black spots.

**Lion:** Found in Gujarat Kathiawar jungles in India; Africa.

**Musk-deer:** Animal found in North Canada.

**Mustang:** Animal found in American prairies.

**Nightingale:** A singing bird found in India.

**Octopus:** a genus of marine molluscs with eight tentacles that bear suckers.

**Ostrich:** is the largest living bird now found only on the sandy plains of Africa and parts of South West Asia. The male has beautiful white plumes on wings and tails. The wings are useless for flight, but the birds have a fleetness of foot exceeding that of the swiftest horse. Its egg weighs 3 lbs.

**Penguin:** is a genus of large birds with small wings and webbed feet. They exist in enormous numbers in the Southern Ocean and Antarctic Sea. Penguins breed on the rocky coast, and in the season are to be seen in vast numbers standing erect over their eggs. They are facile swimmers, and live on fish.

**Plover:** Bird; common in all continents except Africa and South America.

**Puma:** a carnivorous quadruped of North America. It is called "American Lion". It is smaller than lion. It seldom attains a length of more than 40 in., exclusive of tail and a height of 2 ft.

**Reindeer:** A genus of deer horned in both sexes; Siberia. It is also called

**Rhinoceros:** In the swamps of Assam and Sunderbans; South-East Asia; Africa.

**Seal:** Fish found in Northern Russia.

**Sea Lions:** One of the families of Seal found in the Pacific.

**Shark:** a large and powerful ocean fish, mostly found in tropical seas. Oil is obtained from its liver.

**Trout:** A fresh water fish of the Salmonidae family; found in Kashmir.

**Walrus:** A very large marine mammal related to the Seals; Arctic Sea.

**Yak:** A curious long-haired ox, found in Tibet.

**Yeti:** or the abominable snow-man of the high Himalayas is variously described as being from 6 to 12 ft. tall half-Gorilla-like, with shaggy body and hairless face. His foot-prints have been seen and photographed many times.

**Zebra:** African quadruped of whitish-grey colour with regular black stripes.

### **Wild Animals in India**

**Black Bear:** is found in Kashmir, some other parts of the Himalayas and to some extent in the Terai forests.

**Deer (spotted):** is widely distributed in India. It is also found in Sri Lanka.

**Elephants:** are found in the forests of Western Ghats, Karnataka and in parts of the districts of Coimbatore, Nilgiri, Palni, and Madura hills in South India; to some extent in the eastern parts of Vishakhapatnam and in Orissa State, east of Mahanadi river.

**Lion and Panther:** Occur all over India. Lions are mostly found in Gir Forest (Gujarat State).

**Rhinoceros (Indian):** found in Chitwan forests of Nepal Terai of Gandak river, Bengal and Assam.

### **PLANTS, TREES ETC.**

#### **Common Trees (where grown and their usefulness)**

**Ash:** grown in North Africa. Its wood is elastic and tough and valuable in cabinet work and barrel staves.



‘Mauna’, a medical material is extracted from the flowering ash. Ashes from tree also make a good fertilizer.

**Bamboo:** grown in tropical and sub-tropical lands. The tabular stems are used as pipe, boat-masts, fishing poles, lathies etc. It is used in building material. Its seeds and tender shoots are edible. Flutes are also made of it.

**Camphor:** grown in China, Japan and Formosa (Taiwan). It is used for the manufacture of celluloid, perfumes, disinfectants, medicine and explosives. It is used to stimulate the skin as in camphorated oil.

**Cinchona:** the tree is native to the Andes which is famous for its bark—source of the drug quinine. It was introduced into Sri Lanka, India, and Jawa, the latter becoming the main supplier of quinine.

**Coconut Palm:** grows in all tropical countries, but thrives best near the sea. Its fruit is eaten. Its oil is used for the hair, for cooking and for making face cream. Its fibre is used for stuffing mattresses and ropes. Its wood is also valuable.

**Walnut:** grown in England, North America and India. It yields valuable furniture wood; juice from the husk of walnuts is used to stain the skin. The fruit resembles a plum, but the ‘stone’ is edible portion furnishing the well-known wrinkled fleshy kernel.

### **Trees, Plants, Flowers, Fruits, Vegetables and Stones**

*(Description, where grown or found etc.)*

**Cacao:** an evergreen tree, from 16 to 40 feet high. It grows abundantly in tropical America, West Africa, the West Indies and Sri Lanka

**Carnation:** garden plant, Great Britain.

**Chrysanthemum:** National flower of Japan.

**Coca:** shrub, South America.

**Dates:** fruits of the date palm tree; Iraq, Arabia and Iran.

**Ebony:** hard wood; Mauritius, East Indies and Sri Lanka.

**Eucalyptus:** a family of plants originated from Australia; oil is extracted from its leaves for use in soap-making, medicines and disinfectants.

**Gooseberry:** Shrub; northern hemisphere.

**Jasmine:** originally a Persian plant now planted in almost all parts of the world. A graceful climber belonging to olive with odoriferous blossom. Two of its species (the common and the Spanish jasmine) yield oil which is used in perfumery.

**Juniper:** a genus of hardy evergreen trees grown in the northern hemisphere.

**Ladies Finger:** vegetable; India.

**Love Apple:** vegetable; south west of America.

**Mistletoe:** a parasitic plant found growing on many trees, particularly the apple tree; Europe.

**Mulberry:** tree; Central Asia.

**Natural Rubber:** is a plant product which is chemically known as latex.

**Oak:** tree; North America.

**Olive trees:** These grow in the Mediterranean type regions.

**Pine:** a coniferous tree that flourishes in most northern latitudes, in the mountains of India, Tibet and China.

**Sandal Wood:** tree; Karnataka.

**Spinach:** a flowering plant grown in South and Central Europe.

**Teak:** a tree grown in the East Indies and Myanmar.

## Tribes & Races

### Tribes and Races

**Afridis:** A war-like race of hill men on the north-west frontier of Pakistan (tribal area of Waziristan).

**Bedouins:** Nomadic tribe of Arabia, spread over the whole of Northern Africa and Western Asia.

**Bhils:** a primitive Dravidian race inhabiting Central India.

**Boer:** a name applied to South Africans of Dutch or Huguenot descent, especially to early settlers of Transvaal and the Orange Free State and their descendants.

**Bushmen:** They live in the Kalahari desert. They are probably the descendants of the earliest inhabitants of Africa. They rank among the most uncivilized and backward peoples in the world. Their food consists almost entirely of meat, often raw or decomposed, and in times of scarcity they will eat insects, snakes etc.

**Cossacks:** Peasants of the south-eastern border land of Poland, or Ukraina are known as Cossacks. Many of them belong to Turkic people while many others are of a mix descent.

**Eskimos:** Race living in the Arctic regions: Greenland, Alaska, Labradors and the extreme north-east corner of Siberia.

**Karbis:** are natives of Assam.

**Khasis:** are a tribe inhabiting the Khasi and Jaintia hills in the north-eastern hilly tracts in Meghalaya State of India. The Khasis have their own distinctive language and culture.

**Kikuyu:** are a race of Bantu negroes who live in the north of Mount Kenya. They combine agriculture with pastoralism.

**Kirghiz:** of Central Asia are an example of people adapted to a grassland environment. They are pastoral nomads who move from pasture to pasture with the flocks and herds of horses, camels, oxen, sheep and goats. Meat forms only a small portion of their food. The Kirghiz are fearless horsemen, and even their children are expert riders.

**Kiwis:** inhabit New Zealand.

**Lambadies:** are concentrated in Karnataka State of India.

**Lepchas:** are aborigines of Sikkim and Darjeeling. They are one of the Scheduled Tribes of the Hills, recognised by the Government of India.

**Magyars:** the Hungarian race who came to Eastern Europe from south-west Asia and settled in Hungary in the 10th century.

**Mahsud:** Hill-tribe living in north-west of Pakistan.

**Maoris:** are the original inhabitants of New Zealand. The Maoris are tall, muscular, handsome people, with brown skin and black hair. They are greatly skilled in stone and wood-carving.

**Masai:** of the east African Plateau are the example of pastoral people. They are tall, strong, warlike race, partly negroid in type. They treat their cattle with great respect and affection and do not kill them for food or for sale as meat.

**Moplas:** A Muslim tribe of Malabar (Kerala, India).

**Mayas:** A large group of American Indians living in the highlands of Guatemala.

**Munda:** They are mostly located in the State of Madhya Pradesh in India.

**Nagas:** Hill tribe of Nagaland (India).

**Negritos:** are the ancient tribes of Andamans.

**Negro:** A race of men distinguished by dark skin, fuzzy hair, broad and protruding lips, living in south-west and Central Africa.

**Red Indians:** Race living in U.S.A. between the rocky Mountains and the Missouri River. They are original inhabitants of America.

**Santhals:** Aboriginal natives of Orissa and Chhotanagpur.

**Semangs:** are tribal people living in Malaysia.

**Todas:** They are aboriginal tribe of the Nilgiris (India).

**Zulus:** are a race of negroid people in Natal (South Africa), having close ethnic, linguistic and cultural ties with the Swazis and the Bantus.



## Geographical Epithets

**Bengal's Sorrow:** Damodar River  
**Blue Mountains:** Nilgiri Hills  
**China's Sorrow:** Hawang-Ho  
**City Beautiful:** Chandigarh  
**City of Dreaming Spires:** Oxford  
**City of Golden Gate:** San Francisco  
**City of Magnificent Buildings:** Washington  
**City of Palaces:** Calcutta  
**City of Seven Hills:** Rome  
**City of Sky-scrappers:** New York  
**Cockpit of Europe:** Belgium  
**Dark Continent:** Africa  
**Emerald Isle:** Ireland  
**Eternal City:** Rome  
**Forbidden City:** Lhasa (Tibet)  
**Garden City:** Chicago  
**Gate of Tears:** Strait of Bab-el-Mandeb  
**Gateway of India:** Bombay  
**Gift of the Nile:** Egypt  
**Granite City:** Aberdeen  
**Hermit Kingdom:** Korea  
**Herring Pond:** Atlantic Ocean  
**Holy Land:** Palestine  
**Island Continent:** Australia  
**Island of Cloves:** Zanzibar  
**Isle of Pearls:** Bahrain (Persian Gulf)  
**Key to the Mediterranean:** Gibraltar  
**Land of Cakes:** Scotland  
**Land of Golden Fleece:** Australia  
**Land of Maple:** Canada  
**Land of Morning Calm:** Korea  
**Land of Thousand Lakes:** Finland  
**Land of the Midnight Sun:** Norway  
**Land of the Rising Sun:** Japan  
**Land of the Thunderbolt:** Bhutan  
**Land of White Elephant:** Thailand  
**Loneliest Island:** Tristan De Gunha (Mid-Atlantic)  
**Never Never land:** Vast Prairies of N. Australia  
**Pearl of the Antilles:** Cuba  
**Pearl of the Pacific:** Guayaquil port of Ecuador  
**Pillars of Hercules:** Straits of Gibraltar  
**Playground of Europe:** Switzerland  
**Quaker City:** Philadelphia  
**Queen of the Adriatic:** Venice  
**Roof of the World:** The Pamirs, Central Asia  
**Rose-pink City:** Jaipur  
**Sorrow of China:** Yellow River  
**Spice Garden of India:** Kerala

**Sugar bowl of the World:** Cuba

**Venice of the East:** Alappuzha

**Venice of the North:** Stockholm

**White man's grave:** Guinea Coast of Africa

**Windy City:** Chicago

## **Highest, Longest, Deepest, Etc.**

### **Highest, Biggest, Longest, Largest, Deepest etc.**

*Airliner, Largest:* Boeing 747  
*Animal, Tallest:* Giraffe  
*Animal, Fastest:* The Peregrine Falcon  
*Archipelago, Largest:* Indonesia  
*Bird, Fastest:* Swift  
*Bird, Largest:* Ostrich  
*Bird, Smallest:* Humming Bird  
*Bridge, Longest Railway:* Huey P. Long Bridge (U.S.A.)  
*Building, Tallest in Asia:* The Connaught Centre in Hong Kong (195 metres tall; has 46 floors)  
*Building, Highest in the world:* Sears Tower in Chicago (440-metre high. It is a 110-storey tower which is nearly 60 metres taller than the Empire State building in New York)  
*Canal, Longest, small ship:* Beloye (White Sea) Baltic Canal (CIS) 226 km long  
*Canal, Longest, big ship:* Suez Canal (U.A.R.) (161 km)  
*Canalised System, Longest:* Volga-Baltic Canal (2960 km)  
*Capital, Highest:* Lhasa (Before domination of Tibet by China) 3684 metres above sea-level  
*City, Highest:* Wenchuan (China) 5,100 metres above sea-level La Paz (capital of Bolivia) stands at an altitude of 3632 metres above sea-level  
*City, Largest in population:* Shanghai followed by: Tokyo, New York, Beijing, London and Moscow  
*Conference Hall, World's Highest:* At Nathu-La Pass on Indo-China border in Sikkim  
*Continent, Largest:* Asia  
*Continent, Smallest:* Australia  
*Coral Formation, Largest:* The Great Barrier Reef (North-east coast of Australia)  
*Country, Largest in Population:* China followed by India  
*Country, Largest (in area):* Russia  
*Country (with largest electorate):* India.  
*Creature, Largest:* Blue Whale is the largest creature in the world today. It can grow up to a weight of 150 tonnes.  
*Dam, Highest:* The Grande (Switzerland)  
*Day, Longest:* June 21 (in Northern Hemisphere)  
*Day, Shortest:* Dec 22 (in Northern Hemisphere)  
*Delta, Largest:* The world's largest delta is that created by the Ganges and Brahmaputra in Bangladesh and West Bengal, India.  
*Desert, Largest (in the world):* Sahara (Africa)  
*Desert, Largest (in Asia):* Gobi (Mongolia)  
*Diamond, Largest:* The Cullinan (over 1½ lb.)  
*Dome, Largest:* "Astrodome" in Houston, Texas (U.S.A.); outside dia: 216 metres and inside 196 metres. (The largest dome in India is Gol Gumbaz (Bijapur) 44 metres in Dia.)  
*Employer, Largest of India:* Indian Railways  
*Epic, Longest:* Mahabharata  
*Forest, Largest:* Coniferous forest of Northern Russia  
*Gulf, Largest:* Gulf of Mexico  
*Highest Motorable Road:* Khardungla-Leh-Manali sector 5682 Mt  
*Highest Non-military Airport:* Leh 3256 Mt  
*Island, Largest:* Greenland  
*Islands, Largest (Group of):* Malaya Archipelago  
*Lake, Largest Artificial:* Lake Mead (Boulder Dam)  
*Lake, Deepest:* Baikal (Siberia); average depth 701 metres

*Lake, Highest:* Titicaca (Bolivia) 3854 metres above sea level  
*Lake, Largest Fresh Water:* Superior (50,200 sq km)  
*Lake, Largest Salt Water:* Caspian Sea (26 metres below sea-level)  
*Largest Crater of India:* The Lonar in Vidharba region of Maharashtra  
*Largest Inland Waterway of India:* Kerala  
*Largest Barrage of India:* Farakka 224 mt  
*Largest Stadium of India:* Salt Lake Stadium Kolkata, 1,20,00 capacity  
*Largest Tribe of India:* Gond  
*Largest Library of India:* National Library Kolkata  
*Largest Exhibition Ground of India:* Pragati Maidan, New Delhi 150 Acres  
*Largest Ocean Island of India:* Middle Andaman  
*Largest River Basin of India:* Ganga Basin  
*Largest Estuary:* at the mouth of the river Hooghly  
*Library, Largest:* United States Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. (more than 59,000,000 items).  
*Longest Ropeway in India:* connecting Joshimath in Uttranchal 4.15 km long  
*Longest Train in India:* Prayag Express running between Delhi and Allahabad (24 bogies)  
*Longest Road Tunnel in India:* Chiplin—Koya Nagar, Maharashtra 1 km long  
*Longest National Highway of India:* NH-7, 2369 km  
*Longest Cave of India:* Krem um Kwan Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya  
*Mountain Peak, Highest in the world:* Everest (Nepal)  
*Mountain Peak, Highest in India:* Godwin Austen (8,611 m)  
*Mountain Peak, Highest in Africa:* Kilimanjaro (5,888 m)  
*Mountain Peak, Highest in Europe:* Elbruz (5,633 m )  
*Mountain Range, Highest:* Himalayas  
*Mountain Range, Longest:* Andes (S. America), 8,800 km in length  
*Museum, Largest:* American Museum of Natural History, New York city. It comprises 19 inter-connected buildings with 23 acres of floor space.  
*Nuclear Reactor, Biggest:* France  
*Ocean, Deepest and Biggest:* The Pacific  
*Palace, Biggest:* Vatican  
*Park, Largest:* Wood Buffalo National Park in Alberta Canada. Area : 28260 sq km.  
*Peninsula, Largest:* Arabia  
*Pilot, Youngest of India:* Capt Nivedita Bhasin, at age 26 in 1990 became youngest pilot to command a jet aircraft  
*Place, Coldest:* Verkhoyansk (Russia); Temperature 85° below zero  
*Place, Driest:* Death Valley (California); rainfall 1.5 inch  
*Place, Hottest:* Azizia (Libya, Africa 58°C (136°F)  
*Place, Rainiest:* Cheerapunji (Meghalaya, India)  
*Planet, Biggest:* Jupiter  
*Planet, Brightest:* Venus  
*Planet, Farthest (from the sun):* Pluto  
*Planet, Nearest (to the sun):* Mercury  
*Planet, Smallest:* Mercury  
*Planetarium, biggest:* Tsukuba, Japan  
*Plateau, Highest:* Pamir (Tibet)  
*Platform, Longest:* Kharagpur platform in West Bengal (India)  
*Railway, Longest:* Trans-Siberian Railway (9,600 km long)  
*Railway Station, Largest:* Grand Central Terminal, New York City, covers 48 acres. On an average more than 550 trains and 180,000 people per day use it.  
*River, Longest:* Nile (6,679 km)

*Sea-bird, Largest:* Albatross

*Sea, Largest:* South China Sea

*Star, Brightest:* Sirius (also called Dog Star)

*Statue, Tallest :* “Motherland” an enormous female figure on Mamayev Hill, outside Volgograd (Russia).

*Swimming Course, Longest recognised:* English Channel

*Tallest TV Tower of India:* Rameshwaram, T.N. 1000 feet

*Telescope, Largest Radio:* The world’s largest and most sensitive radio telescope, Y-shaped with each arm 21 km long with 27 mobile antennae on rails, built in New Mexico (USA).

*Telescope, Largest Solar:* Kit Peak National Observatory, Arizona USA

*Telescope, Largest Reflector:* Mount Semirodriki, in the Caucasus (CIS)

*Telescope, Largest Refractor:* Yerkes Observatory, Wisconsin (USA)

*Tunnel, Longest Railway:* Secken Tunnel (Japan)

*Tunnel, Longest Road:* St Gothard tunnel in Switzerland (16.32 km)

*Village, Highest:* Andean (Chile) 5334 metres above sea-level

*Volcano, Highest:* Cotopaxi (Andes, Ecuador)

*Volcano, Largest:* Mauna Lea (Hawaii); crater

*Wall, Longest:* Great Wall of China (2400 km)

*Water Falls, Greatest in the world:* Victoria Falls on river Zambesi (Zambia) 1700 metres wide

*Waterfall, Highest:* Angel (Venezuela)

*Water, Lowest body of:* Dead Sea

### **Seven Wonders of the Ancient World**

(1) The Pyramids of Egypt; (2) the Hanging Gardens of Babylon; (3) the temple of Artemis at Ephesus; (4) the statue of Zeus at Olympia; (5) the mausoleum at Halicarnassus; (6) the Colossus of Rhodes; (7) The Pharos (Lighthouse) at Alexandria.

### **Seven Wonders of the Mediaeval World**

The Colosseum of Rome; (2) the Great Wall of China; (3) the Procelain Tower of Nanking; (4) the Mosque at St Sophia (Constantinople); (5) the Stonehenge of England; (6) the Catacombs of Alexandria; (7) the Leaning Tower of Pisa.



## **Famous Birthdays In Indian History**

- 1483-02-15** – Babur, founder of Mughal dynasty in India (1526-30)  
**1506-04-07** – Francis Xavier, saint/Jesuit missionary to India, Malaya, & Japan  
**1542-10-14** – Abul-Fath Djalal-ud-Din, 3rd Mogol emperor of India (1556-1605)  
**1542-10-15** – Djalalud-Din Mohammed Akbar, emperor of India (1556-1605)  
**1569-08-31** – Djehangir/Jahangir, great mogul of India  
**1592-01-05** – Shah Jahan, Mughal emperor of India (1628-58), built Taj Mahal  
**1592-01-14** – Sjihab al-Din Sultan Choerram Sjah Djahan, leader of India  
**1618-11-03** – Aurangzeb, [Alamgir], Emperor of India (1658-1707)  
**1643-10-14** – Bahadur Shah I, Mughal Emperor of India (d. 1712)  
**1682-07-10** – Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg, German Lutheran missionary to India (d. 1719)  
**1685-01-07** – Gerard George Clifford, Dutch director of East India Company  
**1725-09-29** – Robert Clive, English explorer/founder (British empire in India)  
**1725-09-29** – Robert Clive, founder (British empire in India)  
**1732-12-06** – Warren Hastings, England, 1st governor-General of India (1773-84)  
**1750-11-20** – Tipu Sultan, Indian ruler (d. 1799)  
**1767-05-04** – Tyagaraja, Composer of Indian classical Carnatic music (d. 1847)  
**1787-06-28** – Henry G W Smith, leader of British-Indian forces  
**1796-12-27** – Mirza Ghalib, Indian poet (d. 1869)  
**1809-01-23** – Veer Surendra Sai, Indian Freedom Fighter  
**1809-12-24** – Christopher “Kit” Carson, KY, Union brig-general/indian fighter  
**1817-05-15** – Debendranath Tagore, Indian religious reformer (d. 1905)  
**1817-10-17** – Sajjid Ahmad Chan, Indian moslem leader/co-founder (Pakistan)  
**1823-06-30** – Dinshaw Maneckji Petit, Indian industrialist (d. 1901)  
**1824-02-12** – Arya Samaj Maha Rishi Dayanand Sarsvati, Indian hindu leader  
**1825-05-08** – George Bruce Malleson, Indian officer (d. 1898)  
**1825-09-04** – Dadabhai Naoroji, 1st Indian in British parliament  
**1827-07-19** – Mangal Pandey, Indian freedom fighter (d. 1857)  
**1831-11-08** – Edward R L Bulwer-Lytton, English under king of India  
**1832-06-10** – Edwin Arnold, English writer (Light of India)  
**1833-11-02** – Mahendralal Sarkar, Indian doctor (d. 1904)  
**1835-11-19** – Rani Lakshmi Bai, Indian Queen (d. 1858)  
**1836-02-18** – Swami Ramakrishna [Gadadhar Chatterji], Indian mystic/hindu leader  
**1839-03-03** – Jamsetji Tata, Indian industrialist (d. 1904)  
**1845-11-04** – Vasudeo Balwant Phadke, The First Indian Revolutionary (d. 1883)  
**1848-04-16** – Kandukuri Veeresalingam, Social Reformer of Andhra Pradesh, India (d. 1919)  
**1849-09-21** – Maurice Barrymore, Indian-born patriarch of the Barrymore family (d. 1905)  
**1850-09-09** – Harishchandra, India, poet/dramatist/father of modern Hindi  
**1853-12-06** – Haraprasad Shastri, Indian academic, Sanskrit scholar, archivist and historian of Bengali literature (d. 1931)  
**1856-04-01** – Acacio Gabriel Viegas, Indian physician (d. 1933)  
**1856-04-11** – Constantly Lievens, Flemish missionary in India  
**1856-07-23** – Bal Gangadhar Tilak, British-Indian Hindi leader  
**1858-10-21** – Ramabai Dongre’ Medhavi, India, social reformer  
**1858-11-07** – Bipin Chandra Pal, Indian freedom fighter, (d. 1932)  
**1858-11-30** – Jagdish Chandra Bose, Indian physicist (d. 1937)  
**1860-08-10** – Vishnu Narayan Bhatkhande, Indian musician (d. 1936)  
**1860-09-15** – Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvarayya, Indian engineer (d. 1962)  
**1861-05-06** – Motilal Nehru, Indian freedom fighter (d. 1931)

**1861-05-07** – Rabindranath Tagore, First Indian to win Nobel Prize for Literature. (d. 1941)  
**1861-12-25** – Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, Indian founder of Banaras Hindu University (d. 1946)  
**1865-01-28** – Lala Lajpat Rai, Indian freedom fighter (d. 1928)  
**1865-01-31** – Shastriji Maharaj, Indian spiritual leader (d. 1951)  
**1866-05-09** – Gopal Krishna Gokhale, Leader of Indian Independence Movement (d. 1915)  
**1867-12-16** – Amy Carmichael, missionary in Dohnavur, India (d. 1951)  
**1868-08-12** – Frederick JNT Lord Chelmsford, viceroy of British-India (1916-21)  
**1869-10-02** – Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, Porbandar Kathiawad India, pacifist and spiritual leader  
**1872-04-14** – Abdullah Yusuf Ali, Indian-born Islamic scholar and translator (d. 1953)  
**1873-11-22** – Leopold CMS Amery, British minister of Colonies (India)  
**1875-10-31** – Vallabhbhai Patel, Indian freedom fighter and statesman (d. 1950)  
**1876-09-15** – Sharat Chandra Chattopadhyay, Indian novelist (d. 1938)  
**1877-11-24** – Kavasji Jamshedji Petigara, Indian CID Commissioner of Police (d. 1941)  
**1878-02-21** – The Mother, Indian spiritual leader (d. 1973)  
**1878-11-27** – Jatindramohan Bagchi, Indian (Bengali) poet (d.1948).  
**1878-12-10** – Rajaji, India's freedom fighter and the first Governor General of independent India (d.1972)  
**1879-02-13** – Sarojini Naidu, Indian freedom fighter (d. 1949)  
**1879-09-17** – Periyar E. V. Ramasamy, Indian Social Reformer (d. 1973)  
**1880-07-31** – Munshi Premchand, Indian Author (d. 1936)  
**1880-10-08** – Ernest F E Douwes Dekker, Dutch founder (National-India Party)  
**1882-07-05** – Inayat Khan, Indian sufi (d. 1927).  
**1882-12-11** – Subramanya Bharathy, Indian poet (d. 1921)  
**1883-05-28** – Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, Indian activist (d. 1966)  
**1884-12-03** – Rajendra Prasad, first President of India (d. 1963)  
**1885-02-14** – Syed Zafarul Hasan, Prominent Muslim Indian/Pakistani philosopher (d. 1949)  
**1886-05-25** – Rash Behari Bose, leader against the British Raj in India (d. 1945)  
**1886-11-02** – Philip Merivale, Rehutia India, actor (Nothing But Trouble)  
**1887-02-26** – Benegal Narsing Rau, India, pres of UN Security Council (1950)  
**1887-06-07** – William Walraven, Dutch journalist/writer (Indian Daily)  
**1887-12-22** – Srinivasa Ramanujan, Indian mathematician (d. 1920)  
**1888-09-05** – Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, president (India)/philosopher  
**1888-11-07** – Chandrasekhara Raman, India, physicist (Nobel 1930)  
**1888-11-11** – Maulana Azad, 1st minister of education in independent India  
**1889-11-14** – Jawaharlal Nehru, 1st Indian PM (1947-64)  
**1891-04-14** – B. R. Ambedkar, Indian jurist (d.1956)  
**1893-01-05** – Paramahansa Yogananda, Indian guru (d. 1952)  
**1894-01-01** – Satyendra Nath Bose, Indian mathematician (d. 1974)  
**1894-02-25** – Meher Baba, Indian spiritual leader (d. 1969)  
**1894-04-10** – Shri Ghanshyam Das Birla, Indian industrialist (d. 1983)  
**1894-05-20** – Chandrashekarendra Saraswati, Indian Hindu sage, Jivanmukta (d. 1994)  
**1894-06-23** – Edward VIII, King of Great Brit/N-Ireland/emperor of India (1936)  
**1894-08-10** – Varahagiri Venkata Giri, Fourth President of India (d. 1980)  
**1895-05-12** – Jiddu Krishnamurti, India, philosopher (Songs of Life) [NS=May 22]  
**1895-05-22** – Jiddu Krishnamurti, India, philosopher (Songs of Life) [OS=May 12]  
**1895-06-03** – Kavalam Madhava Panikkar, India, diplomat (Asia & Western Dominance)  
**1895-09-01** – Chembai Vaidyanatha Bhagavata, Indian musician (d. 1974)  
**1896-02-29** – Ranchhodji Morarji Desai, premier of India (1977-79)  
**1896-09-01** – A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, Indian theologian (d. 1977)  
**1896-11-12** – Salim Ali, Indian ornithologist (d. 1987)  
**1897-01-23** – Subhas Chandra Bose, Indian politician

**1897-04-19** – Peter de Noronha, Indian businessman and philanthropist (d. 1970)  
**1897-05-03** – V K Krishna Menon, India, minister of defense  
**1897-11-23** – Nirad C. Chaudhuri, Indian writer (d. 1999)  
**1898-12-02** – Indra Lal Roy, Indian pilot (d. 1918)

**1898-12-05** – Josh Malihabadi, Urdu poet of India and Pakistan (d. 1982)  
**1902-06-04** – Richard Allen, India, field hockey goal tender (Olympic-gold-1928)  
**1902-10-11** – Jayaprakash Narayan, Indian freedom fighter and political leader (d. 1979)  
**1903-07-15** – Kumaraswami Kamaraj, Indian politician (d. 1975)  
**1904-02-29** – Rukmini Devi Arundale, Indian dancer and founder of Kalakshetra (d. 1986)  
**1904-03-04** – Chief Tahachee, American-born Old Settler Cherokee Indian stage and film actor (d. 1978)  
**1904-07-29** – J. R. D. Tata, Indian industrialist (d. 1993)  
**1904-10-01** – A.K. Gopalan, Indian communist leader (d. 1977)  
**1904-10-02** – Shi Lal Bahadur Shastri, India premier (1964-66)  
**1905-09-09** – Hussain Sha – Indian Saint, Philosopher ,Pithapuram  
**1906-05-05** – Ursula Jeans, Simla India. actress (I Lived With You, Over the Moon)  
**1906-05-29** – Terence Hanbury White, Bombay India, novelist (England Have My Bones)  
**1906-07-23** – Chandrasekhar Azad, Indian revolutionary (d. 1931)  
**1906-10-10** – R.K. Narayan, Indian novelist (d. 2001)  
**1907-05-15** – Sukhdev Thapar, Indian freedom fighter (d. 1931)  
**1907-09-27** – Bhagat Singh, Indian freedom fighter (d. 1931)  
**1907-09-28** – Bhagat Singh, Indian activist (d. 1931)  
**1908-04-05** – Jagjivan Ram, Indian politician (d. 1986)  
**1908-06-24** – Guru Gopinath, Indian classical dancer (d 1987)  
**1908-07-25** – Semmangudi Srinivasa Iyer, Indian musician (d. 2003)  
**1908-10-22** – John Sutton, Rawalpindi India, actor (Tower of London, Return of Fly)  
**1909-10-30** – Homi J. Bhabha, Indian physicist (d. 1966)  
**1909-12-20** – Vakkom Majeed, Indian politician (d. 2000)  
**1910-01-30** – C Subramaniam, Indian politician (d. 2000)  
**1910-07-03** – Eric Franklin, Indian civil servant  
**1910-10-19** – Subrahmanyam Chandrasekhar, India, astrophysicist (Nobel 1983)  
**1910-12-04** – Ramaswamy Venkataraman, president of India (1987-92)  
**1911-02-19** – Merle Oberon, Calcutta India, actress (Assignment Foreign Legion)  
**1911-09-20** – Shriram Sharma Acharya, Indian spiritual leader (d. 1991)  
**1911-10-13** – Ashok Kumar, Indian actor (d. 2001)  
**1912-01-27** – Lawrence Durrell, Darjeeling, Indian/British writer (Private Country, Alexandria Quartet)  
**1912-02-27** – Kusumagraj, Indian writer (d. 1999)  
**1913-05-13** – Sanjiva Reddy, president (India)  
**1913-05-19** – Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, president of India  
**1914-01-01** – Noor Inayat Khan, Indian princess and SOE agent (d. 1944)  
**1914-07-08** – Jyoti Basu, Indian politician  
**1916-01-22** – Harilal Upadhyay, Gujarati Author, Poet, Astrologist (Gujarat is a State of India) (d. 1994)  
**1916-05-05** – Zail Singh, President of India (d. 1994)  
**1916-05-08** – Swami Chinmayananda, Indian spiritualist (d. 1993)  
**1916-08-03** – Shakeel Badayuni, Indian poet and lyricist (d. 1970)  
**1916-09-15** – Margaret Lockwood, Karachi India, actress (Lady Vanishes)  
**1916-09-16** – M.S. Subbulakshmi, Indian singer (d. 2004)  
**1917-01-12** – Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, Indian spiritualist (d. 2008)  
**1917-01-17** – Maruthur Gopalan Ramachandran, (MGR), Indian film star, politician  
**1917-02-11** – T. Nagi Reddy, Indian revolutionary (d. 1976)

**1917-03-12** – Googie Withers, Karachi India, actress (1 of Our Aircraft is Missing)  
**1917-11-05** – Banarsi Das Gupta, Indian former Chief Minister of Haryana (d. 2007)  
**1917-11-19** – Indira Gandhi, Allahabad India, Indian PM (1966-77, 1980-84)  
**1918-04-16** – Spike Milligan, India, actor/comedian (Digby, 3 Musketeers)  
**1918-12-14** – B.K.S. Iyengar, Indian yoga advocate  
**1918-12-23** – Kumar Pallana, Indian-born American actor  
**1919-01-19** – Dharam Singh, India, field hockey player (Olympic-gold-1964)  
**1919-08-12** – Vikram Sarabhai, Indian physicist (d. 1971)  
**1919-08-31** – Amrita Preetam, Indian poet and author (d. 2005)  
**1919-11-08** – P. L. Deshpande, Indian author (d. 2000)  
**1919-12-25** – Naushad Ali, Indian music director (d. 2006)  
**1920-02-12** – Pran, Indian actor  
**1920-03-15** – Ranganandhan Francis, India, field hockey (Olympic-gold-1948, 52, 56)  
**1920-04-05** – Rafique Zakaria, Indian author (d. 2005)  
**1920-04-07** – Ravi Shankar, Benares India, sitar player (Sounds of India)  
**1920-10-19** – Pandurang Shastri Athavale, Indian philosopher (d. 2003)  
**1920-10-27** – K. R. Narayanan, 10th President of India  
**1920-10-29** – Catholicos Baselios Mar Thoma Didymos I, Indian Catholic  
**1920-12-04** – Michael Bates, Jhansi India, actor (Clockwork Orange, Patton)  
**1921-01-20** – Telmo Zarraonaindía, Spanish footballer (d. 2006)  
**1921-02-15** – Radha Krishna Choudhary, Indian historian and writer (d. 1985)  
**1921-05-02** – Satyajit Ray, Calcutta India, director (Goddess, Adversary)  
**1921-06-28** – P V Narasimha Rao, premier of India (1991- )  
**1921-08-08** – Vulimiri Ramalingaswami, Indian medical scientist (d. 2001)  
**1921-12-07** – Pramukh Swami Maharaj, Indian spiritual leader  
**1922-01-09** – Har G Khorana, India/Canada bio-chemist (Nobel 1968)  
**1922-02-04** – Pandit Bhimsen Joshi, Indian Classical Singer  
**1922-12-11** – Dilip Kumar, Indian actor  
**1923-04-17** – Lindsay Anderson, Bangalore India, director (Thursday's Children)  
**1923-05-15** – Johnny Walker, Indian actor (d. 2003)  
**1923-05-28** – Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao, India, film star (Patala Bhairavi)  
**1923-07-10** – G. A. Kulkarni, Indian (Marathi) writer (d. 1987)  
**1923-07-22** – Mukesh, Indian singer (d. 1976)  
**1923-09-26** – Dev Anand, Indian actor and film producer  
**1924-01-04** – Sebastian Kappen, Indian theologian (d. 1993)  
**1924-01-27** – Sabu, [Dastagir], India, actor (Elephant Boy, Drum)  
**1924-12-14** – Raj Kapoor, Indian actor (d. 1988)  
**1925-08-07** – M. S. Swaminathan, Indian scientist  
**1925-09-24** – Autar Singh Paintal, Indian medical scientist (d. 2004)  
**1925-12-24** – Mohd. Rafi, Indian actor and playback singer (d. 1980)  
**1926-01-08** – Kelucharan Mohapatra, Indian Odissi dancer (d. 2004)  
**1926-05-19** – Swami Kriyananda, Indian teacher and author  
**1926-11-23** – Sathya Sai Baba, Indian guru and philosopher  
**1927-01-18** – Sundaram Balachander, Indian veena player (d. 1990)  
**1927-01-27** – Michael Craig, Poona India, actor (Escape 2000, Vault of Horror)  
**1927-03-25** – Leslie Claudius, India, field hockey (Olympic-gold-1948, 52, 56)  
**1927-05-10** – Nayantara Sahgal, Indian author  
**1927-07-27** – Sat Mahajan, Indian politician  
**1927-08-26** – B. V. Doshi, Indian architect  
**1928-08-04** – Udham Singh, India, field hockey player (Olympic-gold-1952, 56, 64)

**1929-01-08** – Saeed Jaffrey, Indian actor  
**1929-03-29** – Utpal Dutt, Indian actor (d. 1993)  
**1929-05-20** – Andre Carolus Cirino, Suriname/Indian poet  
**1929-06-06** – Sunil Dutt, Indian actor and politician (d. 2005)  
**1929-07-20** – Rajendra Kumar, Indian actor (d. 1999)  
  
**1929-07-25** – Somnath Chatterjee, Indian communist leader  
**1929-08-04** – Kishore Kumar, Indian singer and actor (d. 1987)  
**1929-09-28** – Lata Mangeskar, Indian playback singer  
**1929-10-19** – Balbir Singh, India, field hockey player (Olympic-gold-1948-56)  
**1930-07-21** – Anand Bakshi, Indian lyricist (d. 2002)  
**1930-09-17** – Lalgudi Jayaraman, Indian violinist  
**1931-02-18** – Swraj Paul, Indian/British industrial/multi-millionaire (Caparo)  
**1931-05-16** – Natwar Singh, Indian politician  
**1931-06-30** – June Thorburn, Kashmir India, actress (Touch & Go, Children Galore)  
**1931-08-27** – Sri Chinmoy, Indian guru (d. 2007)  
**1931-10-14** – Nikhil Banerjee, Indian classical musician (d. 1986)  
**1931-10-15** – Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam, Eleventh President of India  
**1932-06-22** – Amrish Puri, Indian actor (d. 2005)  
**1932-08-01** – Meena Kumari, Indian film actress (d. 1972)  
**1932-09-27** – Yash Chopra, Indian director  
**1932-09-29** – Mehmood, Indian actor (d. 2004)  
**1932-10-26** – Chinadorai Deshmutu, India, field hockey player (1952)  
**1932-10-30** – Barun De, Indian historian  
**1932-12-28** – Dhirubhai Ambani, Indian businessman (d. 2002)  
**1933-02-14** – Madhubala, Indian actress (d. 1969)  
**1933-09-08** – Asha Bhonsle, Indian singer  
**1933-11-03** – Amartya Sen, Indian economist, Nobel Prize laureate  
**1933-12-02** – K. Veeramani, Indian anti-caste activist  
**1934-03-15** – Kanshi Ram, Indian dalit leader  
**1934-05-19** – Ruskin Bond, Indian author  
**1934-10-15** – N. Ramani, Indian flutist  
**1935-12-08** – Dharmendra, Indian actor  
**1935-12-11** – Pranab Mukherjee, Indian politician  
**1936-02-09** – Clive Swift, Liverpool, actor (Frenzy, Passage to India)  
**1936-04-29** – Zubin Mehta, Bombay India, conductor (NY Philharmonic)  
**1936-05-03** – Engelbert Humperdinck, [Arnolde Dorsey], India, singer (EH Show)  
**1936-09-25** – Juliet Prowse, Bombay India, actress/dancer (Who Killed Teddy Bear)  
**1936-12-25** – Ismail Merchant, Bombay India, producer (Householder)  
**1937-01-14** – Shoban Babu, Indian actor  
**1937-12-03** – Binod Bihari Verma, Indian linguist  
**1937-12-28** – Ratan Tata, Indian industrialist  
**1938-02-07** – S. Ramachandran Pillai, Indian communist leader  
**1938-03-18** – Shashi Kapoor, Calcutta India, actor (Shalimar, Heat & Dust)  
**1938-07-19** – Jayant Narlikar, Indian astrophysicist  
**1939-01-20** – Nalin Chandra Wickramasinghe, Indian astronomer  
**1939-06-27** – Rahul Dev Burman, Indian composer and actor (d. 1994)  
**1939-09-25** – Feroz Khan, Indian actor  
**1939-11-21** – Mulayam Singh Yadav, Indian politician  
**1939-11-22** – Mulayam Singh Yadav, Indian politician



1940-01-02 – S. R. S. Varadhan, Indian-American mathematician  
1940-01-20 – Krishnam Raju, Indian actor and politician  
1940-10-14 – Cliff Richards, [Harry Webb], Lucknow India, rock vocalist (Suddenly)  
1940-11-01 – Ramesh Chandra Lahoti, Chief Justice of India  
1940-12-12 – Sharad Pawar, Indian politician  
1941-02-27 – Paddy Ashton, New Delhi India, British MP (Soc/Lib Democrat)  
1941-04-14 – Julie Christie, Assam India, actress (Dr Zhivago)  
1941-07-31 – Amarsinh Chaudhary, Indian politician  
1941-09-04 – Sushilkumar Shinde, Indian politician  
1941-11-25 – Riaz Ahmed Gohar Shahi, Indian Muslim Sufi, author, spiritual leader (d. 2001)  
1942-04-02 – Roshan Seth, Indian actor  
1942-04-07 – Jeetendra, Indian actor  
1942-05-23 – K. Raghavendra Rao, Indian film director  
1942-12-29 – Rajesh Khanna, Indian actor  
1943-01-01 – Raghunath Anant Mashelkar, Indian scientist  
1943-01-24 – Subhash Ghai, Indian film director  
1943-06-02 – Ilaiyaraaja, Indian composer  
1943-12-25 – Ravish Malhotra, India cosmonaut (Soyuz T-11 backup)  
1944-01-11 – Shibu Soren, Indian politician  
1944-02-13 – Oduvil Unnikrishnan, Indian actor (d. 2006)  
1944-05-01 – Suresh Kalmadi, Indian politician  
1944-08-20 – Rajiv Gandhi, PM of India (1984-89)  
1945-01-17 – Javed Akhtar, Indian lyricist, poet and scriptwriter  
1945-02-20 – Annu Kapoor, Indian actor  
1945-05-04 – Narasimhan Ram, Indian journalist  
1945-05-23 – Padmarajan, Indian film director (d. 1991)  
1945-07-24 – Azim Premji, Indian businessman  
1945-12-06 – Shekhar Kapur, Indian filmmaker  
1946-05-01 – Joanna Lumley, Kashmir India, actress (Abs Fab, OHM's Secret Service)  
1946-05-28 – Satchidanandan, Indian poet  
1946-08-20 – N.R. Narayana Murthy, Indian businessman  
1946-10-06 – Vinod Khanna, Indian actor  
1946-10-15 – Victor Banerjee, Calcutta India, actor (A Passage to India)  
1946-12-08 – Sharmila Tagore, Indian Actress  
1946-12-09 – Sonia Gandhi, Italian-born Indian politician  
1946-12-09 – Shatrughan Sinha, Indian actor  
1947-01-07 – Shobha De, Indian writer  
1947-02-12 – Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, Indian leader of Damdami Taksal (d. 1984)  
1947-06-11 – Laloo Prasad Yadav, Indian politician  
1947-08-15 – Raakhee Gulzar, Indian actress  
1948-02-24 – J. Jayalalithaa, Indian politician  
1948-02-25 – Danny Denzongpa, Indian actor  
1948-04-09 – Jaya Bachchan, Indian actress  
1948-10-16 – Hema Malini, Indian Actress  
1949-01-13 – Rakesh Sharma, India, cosmonaut (Soyuz T-11)  
1949-03-07 – Ghulam Nabi Azad, Indian politician  
1949-04-28 – Indian Larry, American stuntman (d. 2004)  
1949-09-01 – P.A. Sangma, Indian politician  
1949-12-18 – Joni Flynn, Assam India, actress (Octopussy)  
1950-01-07 – Johnny Lever, Indian actor

**1950-04-20** – Chandra Babu Naidu, Indian politician  
**1950-05-30** – Paresh Rawal, Indian actor  
**1950-06-15** – Lakshmi Mittal, Indian industrialist  
**1950-07-20** – Naseeruddin Shah, Indian actor  
**1950-09-17** – Narendra Modi, Indian politician  
**1950-09-18** – Shabana Azmi, Indian actress  
  
**1950-10-02** – Persis Khambatta, Bombay India, actress (Star Trek, Megaforce)  
**1950-10-18** – Om Puri, Indian actor  
**1950-12-12** – Rajnikanth, Indian actor  
**1951-01-01** – Nana Patekar, Indian film and stage actor  
**1951-11-19** – Zeenat Aman, Indian actress  
**1952-03-20** – Anand Armitraj, India, tennis player (Brother of ViJay)  
**1952-04-13** – Erick Avari, British-Indian actor  
**1952-06-20** – Vikram Seth, Indian poet  
**1952-09-04** – Rishi Kapoor, Indian actor  
**1952-11-05** – Vandana Shiva, Indian physicist  
**1952-12-28** – Arun Jaitley, Indian Politician  
**1953-09-27** – Mata Amritanandamayi, Indian religious leader  
**1953-12-14** – Vijay Amritraj, India, tennis player/actor (Octopussy)  
**1954-03-19** – Indu Shahani, Indian educationist and Sheriff of Mumbai  
**1954-07-27** – G. S. Bali, Indian politician  
**1954-11-07** – Kamal Haasan, Indian actor  
**1955-05-17** – Bill Paxton, actor (Brain Dead, Next of Kin, Indian Summer, True Lies)  
**1955-11-05** – Karan Thapar, Foremost Indian Journalist, Political Analyst & Commentator  
**1955-12-31** – Dawood Ibrahim, Indian crime boss  
**1956-01-15** – Mayawati, Indian politician  
**1956-02-01** – Brahmanandam, Indian film actor  
**1956-03-09** – Shashi Tharoor, Indian author & United Nations Under-Secretary General  
**1956-04-18** – Poonam Dhillon, Indian actress  
**1956-06-02** – Mani Ratnam, Indian dire  
**1956-08-14** – Johnny Lever, Indian actor  
**1956-10-19** – Sunny Deol, Indian actor  
**1957-01-07** – Reena Roy, Indian actress  
**1957-04-19** – Mukesh Ambani, Indian businessman  
**1957-08-03** – Mani Shankar, Indian film maker  
**1957-09-23** – Kumar Sanu, Indian playback singer  
**1957-10-15** – Mira Nair, Indian director  
**1957-12-10** – Prem Rawat, known also as Guru Maharaj Ji and Maharaji, American Indian spiritual leader and speaker  
**1958-02-01** – Jackie Shroff, Indian actor  
**1958-04-03** – Jaya Prada, Indian Actress  
**1959-05-03** – Uma Bharati, Indian politician  
**1959-07-29** – Sanjay Dutt, Indian actor  
**1959-08-26** – Jim Rutledge, Victoria, Canadian Tour golfer (1995 Indian Open)  
**1959-08-29** – Akkineni Nagarjuna, Indian Telugu actor  
**1959-12-24** – Anil Kapoor, Indian actor  
**1960-01-03** – Sandeep Marwah Founder of Film City, Noida, India  
**1960-05-21** – Mohanlal, Indian actor  
**1960-06-10** – Balakrishna Nandamuri, Indian actor

**1960-12-13** – Daggubati Venkatesh, Indian actor  
**1961-01-07** – Supriya Pathak, Indian actress  
**1961-04-18** – Pamella Bordes, New Dehli India, Brit parliament prostitute  
**1961-05-04** – Ishita Bhaduri, Indian (Bengali) Poet  
**1961-05-26** – Tarsem Singh, Indian film director  
**1961-06-05** – Ramesh Krishnan, Indian tennis star  
**1961-06-27** – Meera Syal, British-Indian comedienne and actress  
**1961-07-01** – Kalpana Chawla, Karnal India, astronaut (STS 87)  
**1961-08-13** – Sunil Shetty, Indian Actor, Producer  
**1961-11-24** – Arundhati Roy, Indian writer  
**1962-02-14** – Sakina Jaffrey, Indian actress  
**1962-09-30** – Shaan, Indian singer  
**1963-08-10** – Phoolan Devi, Indian bandit and revolutionary (d. 2001)  
**1963-08-13** – Sridevi, Indian actress  
**1963-08-17** – S. Shankar, Indian film director.  
**1964-01-31** – Remi Bouchard, Lasalle Que, Canadian Tour golfer (1989 India Open)  
**1964-02-19** – Sonu Walia, Indian actress  
**1964-12-25** – Anil Kaul, Amritsar India, Canadian badminton player (Olympics-96)  
**1965-03-14** – Aamir Khan, Indian actor  
**1965-06-01** – India Allen, Portsmouth Va, playmate of the year (Dec, 1987)  
**1965-09-02** – Partho Sen-Gupta, Indian filmmaker  
**1965-11-02** – Shahrukh Khan, Indian actor  
**1965-12-27** – Salman Khan, Indian actor  
**1966-01-06** – A. R. Rahman, Indian composer  
**1966-03-05** – Aasif Mandvi, Indian-born American actor and comedian  
**1966-03-20** – Alka Yagnik, Indian singer  
**1966-04-17** – Vikram, Indian actor  
**1966-05-03** – Firdous Bamji, Indian-American actor  
**1966-08-28** – Priya Dutt, Indian social worker and politician  
**1966-09-28** – Puri Jagannadh, Indian film director  
**1967-01-26** – Pradip Somasundaran, Indian playback singer  
**1967-01-27** – Bobby Deol, Indian actor  
**1967-02-01** – Patle Shishupal Natthu, Indian politician  
**1967-02-12** – Chitravina N. Ravikiran, Indian composer and musician  
**1967-05-15** – Madhuri Dixit, Indian actress  
**1967-08-18** – Daler Mehndi, Indian bhangra/pop singer  
**1967-09-09** – Akshay Kumar, Indian Actor  
**1967-11-13** – Juhi Chawla, Indian actress  
**1968-02-09** – Rahul Roy, Indian actor  
**1968-03-16** – Ananya Khare, Indian actress and teacher  
**1968-04-19** – Arshad Warsi, Indian actor  
**1968-09-29** – Samir Soni, Indian film actor  
**1968-12-15** – Javid Hussain, Indian film producer  
**1969-12-11** – Vishwanathan Anand, Indian chess grandmaster  
**1970-05-30** – Ness Wadia, Indian industrialist  
**1970-06-01** – R. Madhavan, Indian actor  
**1970-06-19** – Rahul Gandhi, Indian politician  
**1970-08-06** – M. Night Shyamalan, Indian/American film director  
**1970-08-16** – Manisha Koirala, Indian actress  
**1970-08-16** – Saif Ali Khan, Indian actor



**1970-09-01** – Padma Lakshmi, Indian actress  
**1970-10-26** – Raveena Tandon, Indian actress  
**1971-04-16** – Natasha Zvereva, Minsk Belarus, tennis ace (finals 1995 Indian Wells)  
**1971-05-01** – Ajith Kumar, Indian film actor  
**1971-09-02** – Pawan Kalyan, Indian actor  
**1971-11-01** – Vikram Chatwal, Indian hotelier  
**1971-12-18** – Barkha Dutt, Indian journalist  
**1972-04-16** – Conchita Martinez, Monzon Spain, tennis star (1996 final Indian Wells)  
  
**1972-08-27** – Dalip Singh, Indian professional wrestler  
**1972-11-04** – Tabassum Hashmi, Indian actress  
**1972-11-09** – Laxmi Poruri, Guntur India, tennis star (1994 Futures-College Park)  
**1972-11-26** – Arjun Rampal, Indian actor  
**1972-12-17** – John Abraham, Indian actor  
**1973-06-17** – Leander Paes, Indian tennis player  
**1973-07-23** – Himesh Reshammiya, Indian Bollywood composer, singer and actor.  
**1973-07-30** – Sonu Nigam, Indian singer/actor  
**1973-08-10** – Lisa Raymond, Norristown Penn, tennis star (1995 Indian Wells doubles)  
**1973-08-23** – Malaika Arora Khan, Indian actress and model  
**1973-09-01** – Ram Kapoor, Indian actor  
**1973-11-01** – Aishwarya Rai, Indian actress  
**1974-01-09** – Farhan Akhtar, Indian Bollywood Director, Actor, Producer, Singer.  
**1974-01-10** – Hrithik Roshan, Indian actor  
**1974-05-15** – Shiney Ahuja, Indian actor  
**1974-06-07** – Mahesh Bhupathi, India, tennis pro  
**1974-06-22** – Joseph Vijay, Indian actor  
**1974-06-25** – Karisma Kapoor, Indian actress  
**1974-09-09** – Vikram Batra, Officer of the Indian Army  
**1974-12-25** – Nagma, Indian actress  
**1975-01-01** – Sonali Bendre, Indian model and actress  
**1975-01-08** – Harris Jayaraj, Indian music composer  
**1975-01-31** – Preity Zinta, Indian actress  
**1975-03-08** – Fardeen Khan, Indian actor  
**1975-06-08** – Shilpa Shetty, Indian actress  
**1975-06-22** – Laila Rouass, Moroccan-Indian actress  
**1975-08-05** – Kajol Mukherjee, Indian actress  
**1975-10-03** – India.Arie, American singer  
**1976-02-05** – Abhishek Bachchan, Indian actor  
**1976-02-20** – Rohan Gavaskar, Left-handed batsman, India ODI 2004 (son of Sunil Gavaskar)  
**1976-06-29** – Sandhya Chib, Miss Universe-India (1996)  
**1976-09-03** – Vivek Oberoi, Indian actor  
**1976-12-15** – Baichung Bhutia, Indian footballer  
**1977-06-09** – Roopa Mishra, Indian civil servant  
**1977-06-09** – Amisha Patel, Indian actress  
**1977-07-17** – Lehmbur Hussainpuri, Famous Indian Singer  
**1977-09-01** – Aamir Ali, Indian television actor  
**1978-01-01** – Paramahansa Sri Nithyananda, Indian spiritualist  
**1978-03-21** – Rani Mukherjee, Indian actress  
**1978-03-28** – Nafisa Joseph, Miss India Universe (1997)  
**1978-04-16** – Lara Dutta, Indian actress

**1978-06-11** – Ujjwala Raut, Indian supermodel  
**1978-11-01** – Manju Warriar, Indian actress  
**1978-12-17** – Riteish Deshmukh, Indian actor  
**1979-01-07** – Bipasha Basu, Indian model  
**1979-02-02** – Shamita Shetty, Indian actress  
**1979-03-23** – Emraan Hashmi, Indian actor  
**1979-03-24** – Emraan Hashmi, Indian actor  
**1979-03-31** – Amey Date, Indian playback singer  
**1979-04-17** – Siddharth Narayan, Indian actor  
**1979-04-23** – Yana Gupta, Indian actress & model  
**1980-02-21** – Parthiva Sureshwaren, Indian racing driver  
**1980-08-18** – Preeti Jhangiani, Indian actress  
**1980-09-21** – Kareena Kapoor, Indian actress  
**1980-12-11** – Arya, Indian actor  
**1981-02-25** – Shahid Kapoor, Indian actor  
**1981-03-29** – J. Lloyd Samuel, West Indian-born footballer  
**1981-06-07** – Amrita Rao, Indian model and actress  
**1981-06-25** – Pooja Umashankar, Indian actress  
**1981-09-21** – Rimi Sen, Indian actress  
**1981-10-12** – Sneha, Indian actress  
**1981-10-24** – Mallika Sherawat, Indian actress  
**1981-10-29** – Reema Sen, Indian actress  
**1981-12-09** – Diya Mirza, Indian actress  
**1982-02-23** – Karan Singh Grover, Indian Television Actor  
**1982-03-28** – Sonia Agarwal, Indian actress  
**1982-04-07** – Sonjay Dutt, Indian American professional wrestler  
**1982-07-03** – Kanika, Indian actress  
**1982-07-18** – Priyanka Chopra, Indian actress and beauty queen  
**1982-09-11** – Shriya Saran, South Indian actress  
**1982-09-28** – Abhinav Bindra, Indian shooter  
**1982-09-28** – Ranbir Kapoor, Indian Actor  
**1982-12-10** – Shilpa Anand, Indian film and television actress  
**1983-02-03** – Silambarasan Rajendar, famous south Indian actor  
**1983-02-23** – Aziz Ansari, Indian American Comedian  
**1983-04-08** – Allu Arjun, Indian film actor  
**1983-05-04** – Trisha Krishnan, Indian actress  
**1983-05-20** – Jr. NTR, Indian film actor  
**1983-05-25** – Kunal Khemu, Indian actor  
**1984-01-19** – Karun Chandhok, Indian racing driver  
**1984-02-15** – Meera Jasmine, Indian actress  
**1984-02-29** – Adam Sinclair, Indian field hockey player  
**1984-03-12** – Shreya Ghoshal, Indian singer  
**1984-03-19** – Tanushree Dutta, Indian actress  
**1984-07-16** – Katrina Kaif, Indian Actress  
**1984-08-03** – Sunil Chetri, Indian Footballer  
**1985-01-18** – Minnisha Lamba, Indian Actress and Model  
**1985-01-30** – Aadiya Pandey, Indian astrologer  
**1985-06-09** – Sonam Kapoor, Indian actress  
**1985-10-26** – Asin Thottumkal, Indian actress  
**1986-01-01** – Vidya Balan, Indian actress

**1986-01-05** – Deepika Padukone, Indian model and actress  
**1986-01-28** – Shruti Haasan, Indian actress  
**1986-03-27** – Ramani, Indian Girl  
**1986-04-10** – Ayesha Takia, Indian actress  
**1986-10-20** – Priyanka Sharma, Indian actress  
**1986-11-15** – Sania Mirza, Indian tennis player  
**1987-03-31** – Humpy Koneru, Indian chess grandmaster  
**1987-08-05** – Genelia D’Souza, Indian actress  
**1987-08-19** – Ileana D’Cruz, Indian actress  
  
**1988-01-04** – Nabila Jamshed, Indian writer  
**1988-11-22** – Suresh Gupta and Jyoti Gupta, British-Indian novelists  
**1988-12-02** – Soniya Mehra, Indian Actress  
**1989-09-02** – Ishmeet Singh Sodhi, Indian Playback Singer (d. 2008)  
**1991-08-09** – Hansika Motwani, Indian actress  
**1996-03-09** – Darsheel Safary, Youngest Indian actor to win filmfare award for best performance.

## **Famous Deaths In Indian History**

- 1351-03-20** – Mohammed ibn-Tughluq, sultan of Delhi India, dies  
**1510-03-01** – Francisco d’Almeida, viceroy of India, dies in battle at about 59  
**1539-03-05** – Nuno da Cunha, Portuguese governor in India (b. 1487)  
**1605-10-15** – Abul-Fath Djalal-ud-Din, Mogol keizer of India (1556-1605), dies at 63  
**1627-10-28** – Djehangir/Jahangir, great mogul of India, dies  
**1629-04-19** – Sigismondo d’India, Italian composer  
**1631-06-07** – Mumtax Mahal, wife of Shah Jahan of India, her tomb (Taj Mahal)  
**1666-02-01** – Sjihab al-Din Sultan C Shah Djahan, mogul of India (Taj-Mahal), dies  
**1680-04-03** – Shivaji, founder of the Maratha Empire, India (b. 1630)  
**1680-04-17** – Kateri Tekakwitha, first American Indian to receive beatification (b. 1656)  
**1699-06-22** – Josiah Child, English Governor of the East India Company (b. 1630)  
**1707-02-20** – Aurangzeb, Mogul emperor of India (1658-1707), dies  
**1707-03-03** – Aurangzeb, Emperor of India (1658-1707), dies at 88  
**1713-02-11** – Jahandar Shah, Mughal emperor of India (b. 1664)  
**1754-10-04** – Tanacharison, Catawba Indian chief  
**1755-07-09** – E Braddock, British Gen, mortally wounded during French & Indian War  
**1760-04-10** – Gerard George Clifford, head of East-Indian Company, dies at 75  
**1773-11-22** – Robert Clive, English occupier (India), dies at about 48  
**1781-05-18** – Túpac Amaru II, Peruvian Indian revolutionary, a descendant of the last Inca ruler, Túpac Amaru (b. 1742)  
**1799-05-04** – Tipu Sultan, Indian military leader (b. 1750)  
**1815-09-24** – John Sevier, indian fighter (Gov/Rep-Tn), dies at 70  
**1818-08-22** – Warren Hastings, 1st governor-general of India (1773-84), dies at 85  
**1843-12-18** – Thomas Graham, Lord Lynedoch, British Viceroy of India (b. 1748)  
**1856-09-24** – Henry, 1st viscount Hardinge of Lahore, gov-gen of India, dies  
**1857-04-08** – Mangal Pandey, Indian soldier (b. 1827)  
**1858-06-17** – Rani Lakshmibai, queen of Jhansi in North India, one of the leading figures of the Indian rebellion of 1857 (b. 1828)  
**1860-10-12** – Henry G W Smith, leader of British-Indian forces, dies at 73  
**1868-05-23** – Kit Carson, American trapper, scout, and Indian agent (b. 1809)  
**1869-02-15** – Mirza Ghalib, Indian poet (b. 1796)  
**1871-03-18** – Augustus De Morgan, Indian-born British mathematician and logician (b. 1806)  
**1871-06-08** – Satank, Kiowa indian chief, shot to death  
**1881-07-17** – Jim Bridger, American mountain man, Indian fighter, and explorer (b. 1804)  
**1883-02-17** – Vasudeo Balwant Phadke, Indian revolutionary (b. 1845)  
**1890-12-10** – Ludolf AJW Sloet van de Beele, gov-gen (Net India 1861-66), dies at 84  
**1893-11-07** – Constantly Lievens, Flemish missionaries in India, dies at 37  
**1898-03-01** – George Bruce Malleson, English officer in India, author (b. 1825)  
**1898-03-27** – Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, Indian Muslim intellectual (b. 1817)  
**1902-07-04** – Swami Vivekananda, Indian spiritual leader (b. 1863)  
**1905-01-19** – Debendranath Tagore, Indian philosopher (b. 1817)  
**1908-08-11** – Khudiram Bose, Indian freedom fighter (b. 1889)  
**1915-02-19** – Gopal Krishna Gokhale, India’s social reformer/politician, dies  
**1918-07-22** – Indra Lal Roy, Indian pilot (b. 1898)  
**1918-10-15** – Sai Baba of Shirdi, Indian saint (b. circa 1838)  
**1919-05-27** – Kandukuri Veeresalingam, Indian social activist (b. 1848)  
**1920-04-26** – Srinivasa Ramanujan, Indian mathematician (b. 1887)  
**1920-08-01** – Bal Gangadhar Tilak, British-Indian hindu leader, dies

**1925-06-16** – Chittaranjan Das, Indian patriot and freedom fighter (b. 1870)  
**1927-02-05** – Inayat Khan, Indian sufi  
**1927-06-13** – Henry CK “Clan” Petty-Fitzmaurice, gov of India (1888-94), dies at 82  
**1928-11-17** – Lala Lajpat Rai, Indian author, politician, & freedom fighter (b. 1865)  
**1931-03-23** – Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, Sukhdev Indian freedom fighters  
**1936-09-19** – Vishnu Narayan Bhatkhande, Indian musician (b. 1860)  
**1937-11-23** – Jagdish Chandra Bose, Indian physicist (b. 1858)  
**1938-04-21** – Allama Iqbal, Indian philosopher and poet (b. 1877)  
**1940-01-01** – Panuganti Lakshminarasimha Rao, Indian writer and essayist (b. 1865)  
**1941-03-28** – Kavasji Jamshedji Petigara, Indian Police Commissioner (b. 1877)  
**1941-08-07** – Radindranath Tagore, Indian philosopher/poet/writer, dies at 80  
**1948-01-30** – Mahatma Gandhi, India’s political and spiritual leader, assassinated in New Delhi  
**1948-01-30** – Mahatma Ghandi, murdered by Hindu extremists in India  
**1950-04-14** – Sri Ramana Maharshi, Indian philosopher (b. 1879)  
**1950-08-08** – Ernest F E Douwes Dekker, founder National-India Party, dies  
**1950-12-05** – Shri Aurobindo, Indian guru (b. 1872)  
**1950-12-15** – Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Indian political leader, Iron Man of India (b. 1875)  
**1951-12-05** – Abanindranath Tagore, Indian writer (b. 1871)  
**1952-01-05** – Victor Alexander John Hope, viceroy of India (1936-43), dies at 64  
**1952-03-07** – Paramahansa Yogananda, Indian guru (b. 1893)  
**1953-12-10** – Abdullah Yusuf Ali, Indian-born scholar and translator (b. 1872)  
**1955-09-16** – Leopold C M S Amery, Brit minister of Colonies (India), dies at 81  
**1956-12-06** – Dr. Bhimji Ramji Ambedkar, Indian Minister of Law and architect of The Constitution of India (b. 1891)  
**1958-06-27** – Robert Greig, actor (Devil Doll, Indian Love Call), dies at 78  
**1959-12-23** – Edward FLW Halifax, English viscount/viceroy of India, dies at 78  
**1962-04-12** – Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya, Indian politician and engineer (b. 1861)  
**1963-02-28** – Rajendra Prasad, First President of India (b. 1884)  
**1964-05-27** – Jawaharlal Nehru, Independent India’s 1st PM, dies at 74  
**1966-01-11** – Lal Bahadur Shastri, Indian premier (1964-66), dies at 61  
**1966-01-24** – Homi J. Bhabha, Indian physicist (b. 1909)  
**1966-02-26** – Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, Indian freedom fighter and writer (b. 1883)  
**1967-10-12** – Ram Manohar Lohia, Indian Socialist politician leader  
**1969-01-31** – Meher Baba, Indian guru (b. 1894)  
**1969-05-03** – Zakir Hussain, 3rd President of India, (b. 1897)  
**1969-06-24** – Ted Hecht, actor (Time to Kill, Song of India, Gangster), dies  
**1970-06-07** – Edward M Forster, Brit writer (Maurice, passage to India), dies at 91  
**1970-07-24** – Peter de Noronha, Indian businessman (b. 1897)  
**1970-11-21** – Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman, Indian physicist, Nobel laureate (b. 1888)  
**1971-12-31** – Vikram Sarabhai, Indian physicist (b. 1919)  
**1972-03-31** – Meena Kumari, Indian actress (b. 1932)  
**1972-05-28** – Edward VIII, King of Gr Brit/N Ireld/emperor (India 1936), dies at 77  
**1972-07-28** – Charu Majumdar, Indian revolutionary leader (b. 1918)  
**1972-09-27** – S. R. Ranganathan, Indian mathematician (b. 1892)  
**1973-09-11** – Neem Karoli Baba, Indian guru  
**1974-02-04** – Satyendra Nath Bose, Indian physicist (b. 1894)  
**1975-04-17** – Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, Indian philosopher (b. 1888)  
**1975-10-02** – Kumaraswami Kamaraj, Indian political leader, Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu (b. 1903)  
**1975-10-31** – SD Burman, Indian musician (b. 1906)  
**1976-08-27** – Mukesh, Indian playback singer (b. 1923)



**1977-03-22** – A.K. Gopalan, Indian communist leader (b. 1904)  
**1979-12-03** – Dhyan Chand, Indian field hockey player (b. 1905)  
**1980-06-23** – Sanjay Gandhi, Indian politician, dies  
**1980-06-23** – Varahagiri Venkata Giri, Fourth President of India (b. 1894)  
**1980-07-24** – Uttam Kumar, Indian actor (b. 1926)  
  
**1980-07-31** – Mohd. Rafi, Indian playback singer (b. 1924)  
**1981-02-05** – Kuda Bux, Indian mystic (I'd Like to See), dies at 75  
**1981-12-26** – Savithri, Indian actress (b. 1937)  
**1982-02-22** – Josh Malihabadi, Urdu poet of India and Pakistan (b. 1898)  
**1983-01-11** – Shri Ghanshyam Das Birla, Indian industrialist and educator (b. 1894)  
**1984-02-03** – Ravindara Mhatrem, Indian diplomat, killed in England  
**1984-02-09** – Balasaraswathi, Indian classical dancer, dies in Madras  
**1984-10-31** – Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, assassinated by two of her bodyguards at 66  
**1984-11-27** – Percy Norris, deputy high commissioner of India, shot dead  
**1985-03-15** – Radha Krishna Choudhary, Indian historian and writer (b. 1921)  
**1986-02-17** – Jiddu Krishnamurti, Indian philosopher (Kingdom Happiness), dies at 90  
**1986-06-06** – Bhavana Balachandran, Indian actress  
**1986-07-06** – Jagjivan Ram, Indian politician (b. 1908)  
**1987-10-09** – Guru Gopinath, Indian classical dancer (b. 1908)  
**1987-10-13** – Kishore Kumar, Indian Singer (b.1929)  
**1987-12-11** – G. A. Kulkarni, Indian (Marathi) writer (b. 1923)  
**1990-01-19** – Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, indian guru, dies at 58  
**1990-05-21** – Moelvi Mohammed Farouk, Indian spiritual leader, murdered  
**1990-11-07** – Lawrence Durrell, Indian/English author (Alexandria Quartet, Mount Olive), dies at 78  
**1991-03-23** – Parkash Singh, Indian soldier, recipient of the Victoria Cross (b. 1913)  
**1991-05-21** – Rajiv Gandhi, Indian Prime Minister (1984-91), assassinated at 46  
**1991-06-14** – Peggy Ashcroft, British actress (A passage to India), dies at 83  
**1992-04-23** – Satyajit Ray, Indian director (Distant Thunder/Agantuk), dies at 70  
**1993-04-06** – Divya Bharati, “Baby Doll” Indian Bollywood actress (Diwana), dies at 19 by mysteriously falling from her husband’s apartment  
**1993-11-29** – JRD Tata, Indian industrialist (Air-India), dies at 89  
**1993-11-30** – Sebastian Kappen, Indian theologian (b. 1924)  
**1994-01-04** – RD Burman, Indian musician (b. 1939)  
**1994-12-25** – Zail Singh, president of India (1982-87), dies at 78  
**1995-04-10** – Morarji Desai, PM of India (1977-79), dies  
**1995-08-31** – Beant Singh, PM of Punjab province of India, assassinated at 73  
**1996-01-18** – N T Rama Rao, PM of Andhra Pradesh India (1983-84, 84-89, 94-95), dies  
**1996-01-18** – Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao, Indian actor (b. 1923)  
**1996-04-22** – Hiteswar Saikia, PM of Indian state of Assam (1991-96), dies  
**1996-05-20** – Janaki Ramachandran, PM of Indian state of Tamil Nadu (1988), dies  
**1996-05-31** – Neela Sanjiva Reddy, president of India (1977-82), dies  
**1996-06-01** – Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, president of India, dies at 83  
**1998-01-15** – Gulzarilal Nanda, temporary PM of India (1964, 66), dies  
**1998-08-18** – Persis Khambatta, Indian actress (b. 1950)  
**1999-07-07** – Captain Vikram Batra, Indian Army officer, awarded Param Vir Chakra (September 9,1974)  
**1999-08-01** – Nirad C. Chaudhuri, Indian-born writer (b. 1897)  
**1999-08-10** – Padma Bhushan Acharya Baldev Upadhyaya, Eminent Sanskrit Scholar in India (b. 1899)  
**1999-12-26** – Shankar Dayal Sharma, President of India (b. 1918)  
**2000-07-10** – Vakkom Majeed, Indian Freedom fighter, Travancore-Cochin Legislative member (b. 1909)

**2000-11-07** – Chidambaram Subramaniam, Indian politician (b. 1910)  
**2000-12-23** – Noor Jehan, Indian singer and actress (b. 1926)  
**2001-05-13** – R.K. Narayan, Indian novelist (b. 1906)  
**2001-07-21** – Sivaji Ganesan, South Indian Tamil actor (b. 1927)  
**2001-12-01** – Ellis R Dungan, American born Indian film director (b. 1909)  
**2001-12-10** – Ashok Kumar, Indian actor (b. 1911)  
**2002-07-06** – Dhirubhai Ambani, Indian businessman (b. 1932)  
**2002-07-07** – Dhirubhai Ambani, Indian business tycoon (b. 1933)  
**2002-10-11** – Dina Pathak, Indian Actress (b. 1922)  
**2003-10-31** – Semmangudi Srinivasa Iyer, Indian singer (b. 1908)  
**2003-11-09** – Binod Bihari Verma, Indian Maithili literateur (b.1937)  
**2004-02-23** – Vijay Anand, Indian film director (b. 1934)  
**2004-02-26** – Shankarrao Chavan, Indian politician (b. 1920)  
**2004-04-17** – Soundarya, Indian actress (b. 1971)  
**2004-06-26** – Yash Johar, Indian film producer (b. 1929)  
**2004-07-23** – Mehmood, Indian actor (b. 1932)  
**2004-08-15** – Amarsinh Chaudhary, Indian politician (b. 1941)  
**2004-08-30** – Indian Larry, American motorcycle builder and stuntman (b. 1949)  
**2004-10-18** – Veerappan, Indian bandit and smuggler (b. 1945)  
**2004-12-11** – M.S. Subbulakshmi, Indian singer (b. 1916)  
**2004-12-21** – Autar Singh Paintal, Indian medical scientist (b. 1925)  
**2004-12-23** – P. V. Narasimha Rao, Prime Minister of India (b. 1921)  
**2005-01-03** – JN Dixit, Indian government official (b. 1936)  
**2005-01-12** – Amrish Puri, Indian actor (b. 1932)  
**2005-01-21** – Parveen Babi, Indian actress (b. 1955)  
**2005-03-30** – O. V. Vijayan, Indian author and cartoonist (b. 1930)  
**2005-04-25** – Swami Ranganathananda, Indian monk (b. 1908)  
**2005-05-25** – Sunil Dutt, Indian actor and politician (b. 1929)  
**2005-07-27** – Swami Shantanand, Mahasamadhi Day, Indian Saint, Philosopher (b. 1934)  
**2005-10-30** – Shamsheer Singh Sheri, Indian communist leader (b. 1942)  
**2005-11-09** – K. R. Narayanan, President of India (b. 1921)  
**2006-02-09** – Nadira, Indian actress (b. 1932)  
**2006-02-23** – Telmo Zarraonaindía, Spanish footballer (b. 1921)  
**2006-03-26** – Anil Biswas, Indian politician (b. 1944)  
**2006-04-12** – Dr. Rajkumar, Kannada language film actor/singer (India)(b. 1929)  
**2006-04-21** – T.K. Ramakrishnan, Indian politician (b. 1922)  
**2006-05-03** – Pramod Mahajan, Indian politician (b. 1949)  
**2006-05-05** – Naushad Ali, Indian composer (b. 1919)  
**2006-05-27** – Oduvil Unnikrishnan, Indian actor (b. 1944)  
**2006-08-21** – Ustad Bismillah Khan, Indian musician (b. 1916)  
**2006-08-27** – Hrishikesh Mukherjee, Indian film director (b. 1922)  
**2007-02-02** – Vijay Arora, Indian film and television actor (b. 1944)  
**2007-03-04** – Sunil Kumar Mahato, Indian parliamentarian (b. 1966)  
**2007-03-22** – Uppaluri Gopala Krishnamurti, Indian philosopher (b. 1918)  
**2007-04-16** – G. V. Loganathan, Indian American professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering (b. 1954)  
**2007-06-30** – Sahib Singh Verma, Indian politician and former Chief Minister of Delhi (b. 1943)  
**2007-10-03** – M.N. Vijayan, Indian writer, orator, and academic  
**2008-01-01** – Pratap Chandra Chunder, union minister of India (b. 1919)  
**2008-02-05** – Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, Indian guru, founder of Transcendental Meditation (b. ca. 1917)  
**2008-02-25** – Hans Raj Khanna, Judge of the Supreme Court of India (b. 1912)

**2008-03-20** – Shoban Babu, Indian actor (b. 1937)  
**2008-05-19** – Vijay Tendulkar, Indian playwright, (b. 1928)  
**2008-06-27** – Sam Manekshaw, Indian Field Marshal (b. 1914)  
**2008-07-29** – Ishmeet Singh Sodhi, Indian Playback Singer (b. 1989)  
**2008-08-01** – Harkishan Singh Surjeet, Indian politician (b. 1916)  
**2008-09-27** – Mahendra Kapoor, Indian singer (b. 1934)  
**2009-01-27** – R. Venkataraman, 8th President of India (b. 1910)

**2009-01-31** – Nagesh, Indian comedian actor in Kollywood (b. 1933)  
**2009-04-27** – Feroz Khan, Indian actor (b. 1939)  
**2009-05-03** – Ram Shewalkar, Indian Marathi writer, cardiac arrest.(b.1931)  
**2009-06-28** – A. K. Lohithadas, Indian screenwriter, director, and producer (b. 1955)  
**2009-07-29** – Gayatri Devi, Ex-Maharani of Indian state Jaipur. (b. 1919)  
**2009-09-02** – Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, India (b. 1949)  
**2009-11-11** – Dhanpat Rai Nahar, Indian labour leader (b. 1919)  
**2010-01-17** – Jyoti Basu, Indian politician (b. 1914)



## **Historical Events In Indian History**

- 1311-04-24** – Gen Malik Kafur returns to Delhi after campaign in South India
- 1329-08-09** – Quilon the first Indian Diocese was erected by Pope John XXII and Jordanus was appointed the first Bishop
- 1459-05-12** – Sun City India founded by Rao Jodhpur
- 1497-07-08** – Vasco da Gama departs for trip to India
- 1498-05-20** – Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama arrives at Calcutta India
- 1500-03-09** – Pedro Cabral departs with 13 ships to India
- 1502-02-12** – Vasco da Gama sets sail from Lisbon, Portugal on his second voyage to India.
- 1509-02-02** – The Battle of Diu takes place near Diu, India, between Portugal and Turkey.
- 1509-02-03** – The Battle of Diu, between Portugal and the Ottoman Empire takes place in Diu, India.
- 1542-05-06** – Francis Xavier reaches Old Goa, the capital of Portuguese India at the time.
- 1556-03-28** – Origin of Fasli Era (India)
- 1565-01-25** – Battle at Talikota India: Moslems destroy Vijayanagar's army
- 1575-03-03** – Indian Mughal Emperor Akbar defeats Bengali army at the Battle of Tukaroi.
- 1597-08-20** – 1st Dutch East India Company ships returned from Far East
- 1600-12-31** – British East India Company chartered
- 1601-02-13** – John Lancaster leads 1st East India Company voyage from London
- 1602-03-20** – United Dutch East Indian Company (VOC) forms
- 1608-08-24** – 1st English convoy lands at Surat India
- 1609-03-25** – Henry Hudson embarks on an exploration for Dutch East India Co
- 1612-08-29** – Battle at Surat India: English fleet beats Portuguese
- 1614-04-05** – American Indian princess Pocahontas, daughter of chief Powhatan marries English colonist John Rolfe
- 1621-06-03** – Dutch West India Company receives charter for “New Netherlands” (NY)
- 1622-03-22** – 1st American Indian (Powhattan) massacre of whites Jamestown Virginia, 347 slain
- 1633-10-22** – Ming dynasty fight with Dutch East India Company that Battle of southern Fujian sea (1633), Ming dynasty won great victory.
- 1639-08-22** – Madras (now Chennai), India, is founded by the British East India Company on a sliver of land bought from local Nayak rulers.
- 1641-01-14** – United East Indian Company conquerors city of Malakka, 7,000 killed
- 1641-08-26** – West India Company conquerors Sao Paulo de Loanda, Angola
- 1643-12-25** – Christmas Island founded and named by Captain William Mynors of the East India Ship Company vessel, the Royal Mary.
- 1658-12-09** – Dutch troops occupy harbor city Quilon (Coilan) India
- 1668-03-26** – England takes control of Bombay India
- 1668-03-27** – English king Charles II gives Bombay to East India Company
- 1690-02-08** – French & Indian troops set Schenectady settlement NY on fire
- 1690-08-24** – Job Charnock founds Calcutta India
- 1692-02-29** – Sarah Good & Tituba, an Indian servant, accused of witchcraft, Salem
- 1699-04-14** – Khalsa: Birth of Khalsa, the brotherhood of the Sikh religion, in Northern India in accordance with the Nanakshahi calendar.
- 1733-05-29** – The right of Canadians to keep Indian slaves is upheld at Quebec City.
- 1737-10-07** – 40 foot waves sink 20,000 small craft & kill 300,000 (Bengal, India)
- 1737-10-11** – Earthquake kills 300,000 and destroys half of Calcutta India
- 1739-02-24** – Battle of Karnal: The army of Iranian ruler Nadir Shah defeats the forces of the Mughal emperor of India, Muhammad Shah.
- 1739-03-20** – Nadir Shah occupies Delhi in India and sacks the city, stealing the jewels of the Peacock Throne.
- 1751-08-31** – English troops under sir Robert Clive occupy Arcot India

**1752-06-09** – French army surrenders to the English in Trichinopoly India  
**1755-04-02** – Commodore William James captures the pirate fortress of Suvarnadurg on west coast of India.  
**1755-07-09** – Brit Gen E Braddock mortally wounded during French & Indian War  
**1756-05-17** – Britain declares war on France (7 Years' or French & Indian War)  
**1756-06-20** – 146 Brit soldiers imprisoned in India-Black Hole of Calcutta-most die  
**1756-06-20** – India rebels defeat Calcutta on British army  
**1756-09-08** – French and Indian War: Kittanning Expedition.  
**1756-12-06** – British troops under Robert Clive occupy Fulta India  
**1757-01-02** – British troops occupy Calcutta India  
**1757-11-05** – Battle at Rossbach (7 year war/French & Indian War)  
**1758-05-21** – Mary Campbell is abducted from her home in Pennsylvania by Lenape during the French and Indian War.  
**1759-04-08** – British troops chase French out of Masulipatam India  
**1760-01-22** – Battle at Wandewash India: British troops beat French  
**1761-01-07** – Battle at Panipat India: Afghan army beats Mahratten  
**1761-01-16** – The British capture Pondicherry, India from the French.  
**1764-11-09** – Mary Campbell, a captive of the Lenape during the French and Indian War, is turned over to forces commanded by Colonel Henry Bouquet.  
**1767-09-28** – Gentlemen 17 forbid private slave transport India to Cape of Good Hope  
**1772-02-12** – Yves de Kerguelen of France discovers Kerguelen Archipelago, India  
**1773-10-14** – American Revolutionary War: The United Kingdom's East India Company tea ships' cargo are burned at Annapolis, Maryland.  
**1783-04-09** – Tippu Sahib drives out English from Bednore India  
**1786-02-24** – Charles Cornwallis appointed governor-general of India  
**1795-03-11** – Battle at Kurdla India: Mahratten beat Mogols  
**1796-04-13** – 1st elephant arrives in US from India  
**1798-09-01** – England signs treaty with nizam of Hyderabad, India  
**1800-07-10** – The British Indian Government establishes the Fort William College to promote Urdu, Hindi and other vernaculars of sub continent.  
**1803-02-27** – Great fire in Bombay, India  
**1803-09-23** – Battle of Assaye-British-Indian forces beat Maratha Army  
**1806-07-10** – The Vellore Mutiny is the first instance of a mutiny by Indian sepoy against the British East India Company.  
**1818-06-03** – Maratha Wars between British & Maratha Confederacy in India ends  
**1829-12-04** – Britain abolished "suttee" in India (widow burning herself to death on her husband's funeral pyre)  
**1835-02-24** – Siwinowe Kesibwi (Shawnee Sun) is 1st Indian lang monthly mag  
**1838-11-03** – The Times of India, the world's largest circulated English language daily broadsheet newspaper is founded as The Bombay Times and Journal of Commerce.  
**1839-01-10** – Tea from India 1st arrives in UK  
**1839-01-19** – Aden conquered by British East India Company  
**1839-11-25** – A cyclone slams India with high winds and a 40 foot storm surge, destroying the port city of Coringa (never to be entirely rebuilt again). The storm wave sweeps inland, taking with it 20,000 ships and thousands of people. An estimated 300,000 deaths result from the disaster.  
**1842-01-06** – 4,500 British & Indian troops leave Kabul, massacred before India  
**1846-01-28** – Battle of Allwal, Brits beat Sikhs in Punjab (India)  
**1846-02-10** – British defeat Sikhs in battle of Sobraon, India  
**1846-02-16** – Battle of Sobraon ends 1st Sikh War in India  
**1849-03-29** – Britain formally annexes Punjab after defeat of Sikhs in India  
**1851-12-22** – The first freight train is operated in Roorkee, India.  
**1853-04-16** – The first passenger rail opens in India, from Bori Bunder, Bombay to Thane.

**1857-05-10** – Indian Mutiny begins with revolt of Sepoys of Meerut  
**1858-07-28** – William Herschel of the Indian Civil Service in India  
**1858-08-02** – Govt of India transferred from East India Company to Crown  
**1859-02-10** – Gen Horsford defeats Begum of Oude & Nana Sahib in Indian mutiny  
**1865-11-11** – Treaty of Sinchula is signed in which Bhutan ceded the areas east of the Teesta River to the British East India Company.  
**1866-06-11** – The Allahabad High Court (then Agra High Court) is established in India.  
**1868-04-13** – Abyssinian War ends as British and Indian troops capture Magdala.  
**1870-09-08** – Neth & Engl sign “Koelietraktaat” Br-Indian contract work in Suriname  
**1876-10-31** – A monster cyclone ravages India, resulting in over 200,000 human deaths.  
**1877-01-01** – England’s Queen Victoria proclaimed empress of India  
**1879-05-14** – The first group of 463 Indian indentured labourers arrive in Fiji aboard the Leonidas.  
**1882-06-06** – Cyclone in Arabian Sea (Bombay India) drowns 100,000  
**1884-09-26** – Suriname army shoots on British-Indian contract workers, 7 killed  
**1888-04-20** – 246 reported killed by hail in Moradabad, India  
**1888-12-18** – Richard Wetherill and his brother-in-law discover the ancient Indian ruins of Mesa Verde.  
**1889-03-23** – The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community was established by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in Qadian India.  
**1891-09-18** – Harriet Maxwell Converse is 1st white woman to become an Indian chief  
  
**1892-07-06** – Dadabhai Naoroji elected as first Indian Member of Parliament in Britain.  
**1897-06-12** – Possibly most severe quake in history strikes Assam India, shock waves felt over an area size of Europe (negligible death toll)  
**1905-04-04** – Earthquake in Kangra India, kills 20,000  
**1905-10-16** – The Partition of Bengal (India) occurred.  
**1906-12-30** – The All India Muslim League is founded in Dacca, East Bengal, British India Empire, which later laid down the foundations of Pakistan.  
**1907-05-01** – Indian Mine Laws passes (concessions from Neth-Indies)  
**1911-02-18** – The first official flight with air mail takes place in Allahabad, British India, when Henri Pequet, a 23-year-old pilot, delivers 6,500 letters to Naini, about 10 km away.  
**1911-03-25** – L D Swamikannu publishes “Manual of Indian Chronology” in Bombay  
**1911-12-12** – Delhi replaces Calcutta as the capital of India.  
**1913-11-06** – Mohandas K Gandhi arrested for leading Indian miners march in S Afr  
**1914-06-30** – Mahatma Gandhi’s 1st arrest, campaigning for Indian rights in S Africa  
**1916-05-13** – 1st observance of Indian (Native American) Day  
**1916-05-24** – Last British-Indian contract workers arrive in Suriname  
**1917-03-11** – World War I: Baghdad falls to the Anglo-Indian forces commanded by General Stanley Maude.  
**1918-05-18** – Neth Indian Volksraad installed in Batavia  
**1919-04-13** – Amritsar Massacre-British Army fires on nationalist rioters in India  
**1919-04-13** – British forces kill 100s of Indian Nationalists (Amritsar Massacre)  
**1919-08-13** – British troops fire on Amritsar India demonstrators; killing 350  
**1919-09-10** – Indian’s Ray Caldwell no-hits Yankees 3-0  
**1920-03-23** – Perserikatan Communist of India (PKI) political party forms  
**1920-10-10** – Indian Bill Wambsganns makes 1st unassisted World Series triple play  
**1920-10-10** – Indian’s Elmer Smith hits 1st World Series grand slam  
**1922-03-18** – Brit magistrates in India sentence Gandhi to 6 years for disobedience  
**1925-12-26** – The Communist Party of India is founded.  
**1926-08-28** – Indian Emil Levsen pitches complete doubleheader victory (Red Sox)  
**1926-12-28** – Imperial Airways begins England-India mail & passenger service  
**1928-08-30** – Jawaharlal Nehru requests independence of India

**1929-01-06** – Mother Teresa arrives in Calcutta to begin a her work amongst India’s poorest and diseased people.

**1929-01-26** – Indian National Congress proclaims goal for India’s independence

**1929-04-08** – Indian Independence Movement: At the Delhi Central Assembly, Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt throw handouts and bombs to court arrest.

**1929-04-24** – 1st non-stop England to India flight takes-off

**1929-04-26** – 1st non-stop England to India flight lands

**1930-03-08** – Mahatma Gandhi starts civil disobedience in India

**1931-02-10** – New Delhi becomes capital of India

**1931-03-23** – Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev embrace the gallows during the Indian struggle for independence. Their request to be shot by a firing squad is refused.

**1932-10-08** – The Indian Air Force is established.

**1932-10-15** – Tata Airlines (later to become Air India) makes its first flight.

**1933-01-28** – The name Pakistan is coined by Choudhary Rehmat Ali Khan and is accepted by the Indian Muslims who then thereby adopted it further for the Pakistan Movement seeking independence.

**1933-05-08** – Mohandas Gandhi begins a 21-day fast in protest against British oppression in India.

**1934-01-15** – 8.4 earthquake in India/Nepal, 10,700 die

**1934-04-07** – In India, Mahatma Gandhi suspended his campaign of civil disobedience

**1934-08-02** – William Franks twirls an indian club overhead 17,280 times in 1 hour

**1936-02-08** – Pandit Jawaharlal follows Gandhi as chairman of India Congress Party

**1936-04-01** – Orissa constituted a province of British India

**1938-10-02** – Indian Bob Feller strikes out record 18 Tigers (Chester Laabs 5 times)

**1938-11-16** – K B Regiment refuses round-table conference in East-India

**1939-03-03** – In Mumbai, Mohandas Gandhi begins to fast in protest of the autocratic rule in India.

**1939-03-10** – 17 villages damaged by hailstones in Hyderabad India

**1939-04-13** – In India, the Hindustani Lal Sena (Indian Red Army) is formed and vows to engage in armed struggle against the British.

**1939-05-03** – The All India Forward Bloc is formed by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

**1940-03-23** – All-India-Moslem League calls for a Moslem homeland

**1940-03-23** – The Lahore Resolution (Qarardad-e-Pakistan or the then Qarardad-e-Lahore) is put forward at the Annual General Convention of the All India Muslim League.

**1940-07-02** – Indian independence leader Subhas Chandra Bose is arrested and detained in Calcutta.

**1941-05-25** – 5,000 drown in a storm at Ganges Delta region in India

**1941-11-24** – Indian infantry attacks German tanks at Sidi Omar

**1942-08-09** – Mahatma Gandhi & 50 others arrested in Bombay after passing of a “quit India” campaign by the All-India Congress

**1942-10-16** – Cyclone in Bay of Bengal kills some 40,000 south of Calcutta India

**1943-12-30** – Subhash Chandra Bose raises the flag of Indian independence at Port Blair.

**1944-04-01** – Japanese troops conquer Jessami, East-India

**1944-04-14** – Freighter “Fort Stikene” explodes in Bombay India, killing 1,376

**1944-08-19** – Last Japanese troops driven out of India

**1945-11-13** – Australian Services draw 1st Victory Test against India

**1946-03-15** – British premier Attlee agrees with India’s right to independence

**1946-08-08** – India agrees to give Bhutan 32 sq miles

**1946-09-02** – Nehru forms govt in India

**1946-12-01** – Australia compile 645 v India at the Gabba (Bradman 187)

**1947-02-20** – Lord Mountbatten appointed as last viceroy of India

**1947-06-03** – British viceroy of India lord Mountbatten visits Pakistan

**1947-07-18** – King George VI signs Indian Independence Bill

**1947-08-14** – India granted independence within British Commonwealth



**1947-08-15** – India declares independence from UK, Islamic part becomes Pakistan  
**1947-08-17** – The Radcliffe Line, the border between Union of India and Dominion of Pakistan is revealed.  
**1947-10-26** – Maharajah of Jammu & Kashmir accedes to India  
**1948-01-01** – Bradman scores 132 in the 1st innings of the 3rd Test v India  
**1948-01-01** – Orissa province accedes to India  
**1948-01-01** – After partition, India declines to pay the agreed share of Rs.550 million in cash balances to Pakistan.  
**1948-01-03** – Bradman completes dual Test tons (132 & 127\*) v India MCG  
**1948-01-23** – Bradman scores 201 in 272 mins v India, 21 fours 1 six  
**1948-01-23** – Test debut of Neil Harvey, v India at Adelaide  
**1948-01-24** – Australia all out 674 v India (Bradman 201, Hassett 198\*)  
**1948-04-15** – Indian territory of Himachal Pradesh created  
**1948-06-21** – Lord Mountbatten resigns as gov-gen of India  
**1948-09-12** – Invasion of the State of Hyderabad by the Indian Army on the day after the Pakistani leader Jinnah's death.  
**1949-01-14** – Black/Indian race rebellion in Durban, South Africa; 142 die  
**1949-02-19** – Mass arrests of communists in India  
**1949-03-05** – The Jharkhand Party is founded in India.  
**1949-05-12** – 1st foreign woman ambassador received in US (S V L Pandit India)  
**1949-09-23** – Indian owner Bill Veeck holds funeral services to bury 1948 pennant  
**1949-10-15** – Administration of territory of Manipur taken over by Indian govt  
**1949-10-15** – Tripura accedes to Indian union  
**1949-11-26** – India adopts a constitution as a British Commonwealth Republic  
**1949-12-30** – India recognizes People's Republic of China  
**1950-01-01** – The state of Ajaigarh is ceded to the Government of India.  
**1950-01-26** – India becomes a republic ceasing to be a British dominion  
**1950-07-02** – Indian Bob Feller, wins his 200th game, 5-3 over Detroit  
**1950-08-15** – 8.6 earthquake in India kills 20,000 to 30,000  
**1950-08-15** – Srikakulam district is formed in Andhra Pradesh, India.  
**1950-10-26** – Mother Teresa found her Mission of Charity in Calcutta, India  
**1950-11-06** – King Tribhuvana of Nepal flees to India  
**1950-12-05** – Sikkim becomes a protectorate of India  
  
**1952-01-21** – Nehru's Congress party wins general election in India  
**1952-05-13** – Pandit Nehru becomes premier of India  
**1952-05-13** – The Rajya Sabha, the upper house of the Parliament of India, holds its first sitting.  
**1952-07-19** – Freddie Trueman takes 8-31, India all out 58 at Old Trafford  
**1952-07-19** – India all out 82 in 2nd innings after making 52 earlier in the day  
**1952-10-16** – Pakistan's 1st Test starts, v India at Delhi  
**1952-10-18** – Vinoo Mankad takes 13 Pakistan wkts to win 1st India-Pak clash  
**1952-10-25** – Nazar Mohammad scores Pakistan's 1st Test century 124\* v India  
**1953-04-01** – Walcott Worrell & Weekes all make centuries in innings v India  
**1953-10-01** – Indian state of Andhra Pradesh partitioned from Madras  
**1954-11-01** – India takes over administration of 4 French Indian settlements  
**1955-04-11** – The Air India Kashmir Princess is bombed and crashes in a failed assassination attempt on Zhou Enlai by the Kuomintang.  
**1955-04-30** – Imperial Bank of India nationalized  
**1955-05-02** – India poses discrimination "onaanraakbaren" punishable  
**1955-06-07** – India premier Nehru visit USSR  
**1956-09-01** – Indian state of Tripura becomes a territory

**1956-09-02** – Collapse of a RR bridge under a train kills 120 (India)  
**1956-11-01** – Delhi becomes a territory of Indian union  
**1956-11-01** – Indian state of Madhya Pradesh forms  
**1956-11-01** – Indian states of Punjab, Patiala & PEPSU merge as Punjab protection  
**1956-11-01** – Formation of Kerala state in India.  
**1957-01-26** – India annexes Kashmir  
**1957-03-22** – Republic of India adopts Saka calendar along with Gregorian  
**1959-01-01** – Rohan Kanhai completes 256 v India at Calcutta  
**1959-03-17** – Dalai Lama flees Tibet for India  
**1959-03-31** – Dalai Lama fled China & was granted political asylum in India  
**1959-07-27** – Abbas Ali Baig scores 112 for India v England on debut  
**1959-08-24** – England complete 5-0 series drubbing of India  
**1959-09-21** – 600 Indian Dutch emigrate to US  
**1959-10-23** – Chinese troops move into India, 17 die  
**1959-12-20** – Jasu Patel takes 9-69, India v Australia at Kanpur  
**1960-02-12** – Chinese army kills 12 Indian soldiers  
**1960-05-01** – India's Bombay state split into Gujarat & Maharashtra states  
**1961-11-05** – India's premier Nehru arrives in NY  
**1961-12-17** – India seizes Goa & 2 other Portuguese colonies  
**1961-12-18** – India annexes Portuguese colonies of Goa, Damao & Diu  
**1962-02-25** – India Congress Party wins elections  
**1962-05-30** – 69 killed in bus crash (Ahmedabad India)  
**1962-09-08** – Chinese troops exceed Mac-Mahon-line (Tibet-India boundary)  
**1962-10-10** – Indies assault up Chinese positions in North-India attack  
**1962-10-20** – Chinese army lands in India  
**1962-11-21** – The Chinese People's Liberation Army declares a unilateral cease-fire in the Sino-Indian War.  
**1963-05-28** – Estimated 22,000 die in another cyclone in Bay of Bengal (India)  
**1963-12-01** – Nagaland becomes a state of Indian union  
**1964-01-13** – Hindu-Muslim rioting breaks out in the Indian city of Calcutta – now Kolkata – resulting in the deaths of more than 100 people.  
**1964-02-09** – Hanumant Singh scores 105 India v England on debut at Delhi  
**1964-06-02** – Lal Bahadur Shastri elected premier of India  
**1964-10-29** – Star of India & other jewels are stolen in NY  
**1964-12-23** – India & Ceylon hit by cyclone, about 4,850 killed  
**1965-01-08** – Star of India returned to American Museum of Natural History  
**1965-04-09** – India & Pakistan engage in border fight  
**1965-05-11** – 1st of 2 cyclones in less than a month kills 35,000 (India)  
**1965-05-25** – India & Pakistan border fights  
**1965-05-28** – Fire & explosion at Dhori mine in Dhanbad India kills 400  
**1965-06-02** – 2nd of 2 cyclones in less than a month kills 35,000 (Ganges R India)  
**1965-08-06** – Indian troops invade Pakistan  
**1965-09-01** – India & Pakistan border fights  
**1965-09-06** – India invades West Pakistan  
**1965-09-07** – China announces that it will reinforce its troops in the Indian border.  
**1965-09-22** – India & Pakistan ceases-fire goes into effect  
**1966-01-10** – India & Pakistan sign peace accord  
**1966-01-19** – Indira Gandhi elected India's 3rd prime minister  
**1966-04-06** – Mihir Sen swims Palk Strait between Sri Lanka & India  
**1966-06-24** – Bombay-NY Air India flight crashes into Mont Blanc (Switz), 117 die  
**1966-11-01** – Indian Haryana state created from Punjab; Chandigarh terr created

**1966-12-13** – Test debut of Clive Lloyd, v India Bombay, 82 & 78  
**1967-05-06** – Zakir Hussain elected 1st Moslem president of India  
**1967-06-09** – Boycott scores 246\* v India, Leeds, 573 minutes, 29 fours 1 six  
**1967-09-04** – 6.5 earthquake of Kolya Dam India, kills 200  
**1967-09-11** – Indian/Chinese border fights  
**1967-12-11** – 6.5 earthquake in West India, 170 killed  
**1968-01-31** – Bobby Simpson takes 5-59 v India in his last Test for ten years  
**1968-02-16** – Beatles George Harrison & John Lennon & wives fly to India for transcendental meditation study with the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi  
**1968-12-25** – 42 Dalits are burned alive in Kilavenmani village, Tamil Nadu, India, a retaliation for a campaign for higher wages by Dalit labourers.  
**1969-12-25** – India all out for 163 at Madras v Aust, Ashley Mallett 5-91  
**1970-04-02** – Meghalaya becomes autonomous state within India's Assam state  
**1971-01-25** – Himachal Pradesh becomes 18th Indian state  
**1971-03-09** – J M Noreiga takes 9-95 WI v India at Port-of-Spain  
**1971-08-24** – India beat England by 4 wickets, their win against the Poms  
**1971-11-21** – Indian troops partly aided by Mukti Bahini (Bengali guerrillas) defeat the Pakistan army in the Battle of Garibpur.  
**1971-12-03** – Indo-Pakistani War of 1971: India invades West Pakistan and a full scale war begins claiming hundreds of lives.  
**1971-12-04** – The UN Security Council calls an emergency session to consider the deteriorating situation between India and Pakistan.  
**1971-12-04** – The Indian Navy attacks the Pakistan Navy and Karachi.  
**1971-12-16** – India's army occupies Dacca, West Pakistani troops surrenders  
**1971-12-17** – Cease fire between India & Pakistan in Kashmir  
**1972-01-21** – Manipur, Meghalaya & Tripura become separate states of Indian union  
**1972-01-21** – Mizoram, formerly part of Assam, creates an Indian union territory  
**1972-01-21** – Tripura becomes a full-fledged state in India.  
**1972-03-19** – India & Bangladesh sign friendship treaty  
**1972-07-02** – India & Pakistan sign peace accord  
**1972-07-10** – Herd of stampeding elephants kills 24, Chandka Forest India  
**1972-12-17** – New line of control agreed to in Kashmir between India & Pakistan  
**1972-12-23** – Chandrasekhar takes 8-79 India v England at Delhi  
**1973-02-09** – Biju Patnaik of the Pragati Legislature Party elected leader of opposition in the state assembly in Orissa, India.  
**1973-02-27** – American Indian Movement occupy Wounded Knee in South Dakota  
**1973-02-27** – Members of American Indian Movement begin occupation of Wounded Knee  
**1973-07-07** – 78 drown as flash flood sweeps a bus into a river (India)  
**1973-08-28** – India & Pakistan sign POW accord  
**1973-11-01** – The Indian state of Mysore was renamed as Karnataka to represent all the regions within Karunadu .  
**1974-05-18** – India becomes 6th nation to explode an atomic bomb  
  
**1974-07-13** – India's 1st one-day international (v England, Headingley)  
**1974-11-07** – 63rd Davis Cup: South Africa beats India in (w/o)  
**1975-01-29** – W I win Fifth Test against India to take exciting series 3-2  
**1975-04-19** – India launches 1st satellite with help of USSR  
**1975-05-16** – India annexes Principality of Sikkim  
**1975-05-19** – Farm truck packed with wedding party struck by a train, killing 66 in truck, 40 miles south of Poona, India

**1975-06-26** – Indian PM Indira Gandhi declares a state of emergency

**1975-06-26** – Two FBI agents and a member of the American Indian Movement are killed in a shootout on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota; Leonard Peltier is later convicted of the murders in a controversial trial.

**1975-07-20** – India expels three reporters from The Times, The Daily Telegraph, and Newsweek because they refused to sign a pledge to abide by government censorship.

**1975-12-27** – Explosion at Chasnala Colliery collapses drowning 350 (Dhanbad India)

**1976-02-17** – Richard Hadlee takes 7-23 v India, his 1st match-winning spell

**1976-04-12** – India set 403 to win by WI They get them, 6 wkts 7 overs spare

**1976-04-25** – India all out for 97 v West Indies

**1977-01-19** – World's largest crowd-12.7 million-for Indian religious festival

**1977-03-20** – Premier Indira Gandhi loses election in India

**1977-03-22** – Indira Gandhi resigns as PM of India

**1977-03-28** – Morarji Desai forms govt in India

**1977-12-17** – Bobby Simpson scores 176 Australia v India at the WACA, aged 41

**1978-01-01** – Air India B747 explodes near Bombay killing 213

**1978-01-03** – Chandrasekar takes 6-52 & 6-52 at MCG in Indian innings win

**1978-02-03** – Australia beat India 3-2 on 6th day of final test

**1978-02-03** – India needing 493 to beat Australia at Adelaide, all out 445

**1978-10-16** – Test debut of Kapil Dev, India v Pakistan at Faisalabad

**1978-12-19** – Indira Gandhi ambushed in India

**1978-12-26** – India's former PM, Indira Gandhi, released from jail

**1979-01-02** – Gavaskar gets twin tons for India for the third time (v WI)

**1979-02-07** – Faoud Bacchus scores 250 for WI v India at Kanpur

**1979-06-01** – Vizianagaram district is formed in Andhra Pradesh, India.

**1979-06-07** – Bhaskara 1, Indian Earth resources/meteorology satellite, launched

**1979-07-15** – Morarji Desai resigns as premier of India

**1979-07-17** – David Gower 200\* in England score of 5-633 v India at Edgbaston

**1979-08-20** – India premier Charan Singh resigns

**1979-09-04** – India need 438 to win v England, game ends at 8-429

**1979-09-20** – The Punjab wing of the Unity Centre of Communist Revolutionaries of India (Marxist-Leninist) formally splits and constitutes a parallel UCCRI(ML).

**1979-10-17** – Mother Teresa of India, awarded Nobel Peace Prize

**1980-01-06** – Indira Gandhi's Congress Party wins elections in India

**1980-07-18** – Rohini 1, 1st Indian satellite, launches into orbit

**1981-01-03** – Greg Chappell scores 204 v India at the SCG

**1981-01-08** – India all out 63 in one-day international v Australia

**1981-01-24** – Kim Hughes scores 213 v India at Adelaide

**1981-02-11** – Australia all out 83 v India at MCG chasing 143 to win

**1981-06-06** – A passenger train travelling between Mansi and Saharsa, India, jumps the tracks at a bridge crossing the Bagmati river. The government places the official death toll at 268 plus another 300 missing; however, it is generally believed that the actual figure is closer to 1,000 killed.

**1981-06-19** – India's APPLE satellite, 1st to be stabilized on 3 axes, launched

**1981-07-16** – India performs nuclear Test

**1981-10-14** – Citing official misconduct in the investigation and trial, Amnesty International charges the U.S. government with holding Richard Marshall of the American Indian Movement as a political prisoner.

**1982-07-09** – Botham scores 208 in 225 balls, England v India at The Oval

**1982-07-27** – Indian PM Indira Gandhi 1st visit to US in almost 11 years

**1982-12-27** – Imran Khan 8-60 to bring innings victory v India at Karachi

**1983-01-15** – Javed Miandad & Mudassar Nazar make 451 stand v India



**1983-02-22** – Hindus kill 3000 Moslems in Assam, India  
**1983-04-17** – India entered space age launching SLV-3 rocket  
**1983-11-16** – Kapil Dev takes 9-83 v WI at Ahmedabad, but India still lose  
**1983-11-27** – Desmond Haynes out handled the ball v India  
**1984-02-01** – Ravindara Mhatrem, Indian diplomat, kidnapped in England (killed 0203)  
**1984-04-03** – Soyuz T-11 carries 3 cosmonauts (1 Indian-Rakesh Sharma) to Salyut 7  
**1984-04-15** – Extremist Sikhs plunder 40 stations in Punjab India  
**1984-06-06** – 1,200 die in Sikh “Golden Temple” uprising India  
**1984-08-03** – Bomb attack on Madras India airport, 32 killed  
**1984-09-28** – 1st floodlit ODI outside of Australia (India v Aust, New Delhi)  
**1984-11-03** – 3,000 die in 3 day anti-Sikh riot in India  
**1984-11-03** – Body of assassinated Indian PM Indira Gandhi cremated  
**1984-12-03** – 2,000 die from Union Carbide poison gas emission in Bhopal, India  
**1984-12-28** – Rajiv Gandhi’s Congress party wins election in India  
**1984-12-29** – Indian PM Rajiv Gandhi claims victory in parlimetary elections  
**1984-12-31** – Rajiv Gandhi takes office as India’s 6th PM succeeds his mom, Indira  
**1985-01-15** – Mike Gatting & Graeme Fowler both scores 200’s v India  
**1985-04-08** – India files suit against Union Carbide over Bhopal disaster  
**1985-05-11** – Booby trap bomb kills 86 people in India  
**1985-06-23** – Bomb destroys Air India Boeing 747 in air near Ireland, 329 die  
**1985-08-17** – Rajiv Gandhi announces Punjab state elections in India  
**1985-09-25** – Akali Dal wins Punjab State election in India  
**1985-12-13** – David Boon’s 1st Test century, 123 v India at Adelaide  
**1985-12-13** – Test debut of Merv Hughes, Geoff Marsh & Bruce Reid (v India)  
**1986-01-04** – David Boon’s second Test century, 131 v India at Adelaide  
**1986-02-02** – Dalai Lama meets Pope John Paul II in India  
**1986-02-11** – Australia beat India 2-0 to win the World Series Cup  
**1986-03-28** – Extremist Sikhs kill 13 hindus in Ludhiana India  
**1986-07-25** – Sikhs extremist kill 16 hindus in Muhktsar India  
**1986-09-19** – Dean Jones scores 210 v India at Madras  
**1986-10-02** – Failed assassination attempt on India premier Rajiv Gandhi  
**1986-10-02** – Sikhs attempt to assassinate Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi  
**1986-10-19** – Allan Border scores the 1,000,000th run in Tests (v India, Bombay)  
**1987-07-06** – 1st of 3 massacres by Sikh extremists takes place in India  
**1987-11-25** – India all out for 75 v West Indies at Delhi, Patterson 5-24  
**1987-12-11** – Test debut of Carl Hooper, WI v India at Bombay  
**1987-12-20** – 76th Davis Cup: Sweden beats India in Gothenburg (5-0)  
**1988-01-11** – Test debut of Phil Simmons, WI v India, Madras  
**1988-07-21** – ESA’s Ariane-3 launches 2 communications satellites (1 Indian)  
**1988-08-20** – 6.5 earthquake strikes India/Nepal, 1,000s killed  
**1988-11-30** – Cyclone lashes Bangladesh, Eastern India; 317 killed  
**1989-10-20** – Pakistan win Sharjah Trophy over India & WI on round-robin  
**1989-11-29** – India president Rajiv Gandhi, resigns  
**1989-12-02** – Vishwanath Pratap Singh sworn in as president of India  
**1990-02-23** – Ian Smith 173\* NZ v India, 136 balls, world record for no 9 bat  
**1990-03-24** – Indian troops leave Sri Lanka  
**1990-03-27** – Bus accidentally touches high voltage wire in Karagpur India; 21 die  
**1990-04-17** – Gas explodes on passenger train in Kumrahar India, 80 die  
**1990-07-27** – Graham Gooch scores 333 v India at Lord’s

**1990-07-30** – Graham Gooch scores 123 v India to follow up 1st innings 333

**1990-12-10** – Hindu-Muslim rebellion in Hyderabad-Aligargh India, 140 die

**1991-10-16** – Jharkhand Chhatra Yuva Morcha is founded at a conference in Ranchi, India.

**1991-10-20** – 6.1-7.1 earthquake in Uttar Kashi, India, about 670 die

**1991-10-25** – Aaqib Javed takes 7-37 in 10 overs v India in cric 1-dayer at Sharjah

**1991-12-26** – Militant Sikhs kill 55 & wound 70 in India

**1992-01-02** – Test debut of Shane Warne, v India at Sydney

**1992-01-20** – Australia beat India 2-0 to win the World Series Cup

**1992-01-28** – Boon completes twelfth Test century, 135 v India at Adelaide

**1992-05-20** – India launches its 1st satellite independently

**1992-05-22** – India launches its Agni rocket

**1992-06-23** – “Tin Bigha Day” protest in India of corridor opening to Bangladesh

**1992-06-26** – India leases Tin Bigha corridor to Bangladesh

**1992-10-18** – Start of Zimbabwe’s 1st Test match, v India at Harare

**1992-10-20** – David Houghton gets Zimbabwe’s 1st Test ton (121 v India, debut)

**1992-12-06** – 300,000 hindus destroy mosque of Babri India, 4 die

**1993-01-23** – Indian Airlines B737 crashes at Aurangabad, 61 die

**1993-01-29** – Test debut of Vinod Kambli, prolific Indian batsman

**1993-02-23** – India complete a 3-0 series drubbing of England

**1993-09-30** – 6.4 earthquake at Latur, India, 28,000 killed

**1994-01-25** – Mine fire at Asansol India, kills 55

**1994-03-15** – Experts from AL certify Indian’s Jacobs Field is properly lit

**1994-04-13** – United Arab Emirates’ 1st official ODI, losing to India

**1994-05-20** – Miss India (Sushmita Sen) selected Miss Universe

**1994-05-21** – Sushmita Sen, 18, of India, crowned 43rd Miss Universe

**1994-07-24** – Bodo kills 37 Moslems in Bashbari NE India

**1994-07-29** – India army kills 27 Moslem militants

**1994-10-29** – National Museum of American Indian opens (NYC)

**1994-11-19** – Aishwarya Rai, 21, of India, crowned 44th Miss World

**1995-02-25** – Bomb attack on train in Assam India (27 soldiers killed)

**1995-03-12** – Congress party loses India national election

**1996-03-09** – Javed Miandad’s last international in Pak’s WC QF loss to India

**1996-03-13** – Sri Lanka beat India in World Cup semi as riots stop play

**1996-08-20** – India defeat Pakistan in Under-15 World Challenge Final at Lord’s

**1996-09-16** – 1st one-day international in Canada, India v Pakistan at Toronto

**1997-03-13** – India’s Missionaries of Charity chooses Sister Nirmala to succeed Mother Teresa as its leader.

**1997-07-25** – K.R. Narayanan is sworn-in as India’s 10th president and the first Dalit— formerly called “untouchable”— to hold this office.

**1998-03-24** – A tornado sweeps through Dantan in India killing 250 people and injuring 3000 others.

**1998-04-06** – Pakistan tests medium-range missiles capable of hitting India.

**1998-05-11** – India conducts three underground nuclear tests in Pokhran, including a thermonuclear device.

**1998-05-13** – India carries out two nuclear tests at Pokhran, in addition to the three conducted on May 11. The United States and Japan impose economic sanctions on India.

**1998-05-28** – Nuclear testing: Pakistan responds to a series of Indian nuclear tests with five of its own, prompting the United States, Japan, and other nations to impose economic sanctions.

**1999-01-22** – Australian missionary Graham Staines and his two sons are burned alive by radical Hindus while sleeping in their car in Eastern India.

**1999-03-11** – Infosys becomes the first Indian company listed on the NASDAQ stock exchange.

**1999-04-08** – Haryana Gana Parishad, a political party in the Indian state of Haryana, merges with the Indian

National Congress.

**1999-08-11** – Total solar eclipse in India-North -France (2m23s)

**2000-02-15** – Indian Point II nuclear power plant in New York State vents a small amount of radioactive steam when a steam generator fails.

**2000-11-15** – A chartered Antonov AN-24 crashes after takeoff from Luanda, Angola killing more than 40 people. New Jharkhand state came into existence in India.

**2001-01-26** – An earthquake hits Gujarat, India, causing more than 20,000 deaths.

**2001-06-18** – Protests occur in Manipur over the extension of the ceasefire between Naga insurgents and the government of India.

**2001-09-21** – University of Roorkee, becomes India's 7th Indian Institute of Technology, rechristened as IIT Roorkee

**2001-12-13** – the Indian Parliament Sansad is attacked by terrorists. 15 people are killed, including all the terrorists.

**2002-05-03** – A military MiG-21 aircraft crashes into the Bank of Rajasthan in India, killing eight.

**2003-06-05** – A severe heat wave across Pakistan and India reaches its peak, as temperatures exceed 50°C (122°F) in the region.

**2003-10-17** – Eunuchs in the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh float the political party Jiti Jitayi Politics.

**2003-11-18** – The congress of the Communist Party of Indian Union (Marxist-Leninist) decides to merge the party into Kanu Sanyal's CPI(ML).

**2004-03-23** – Andhra Pradesh Federation of Trade Unions holds its first conference in Hyderabad, India.

**2004-06-06** – Tamil is established as a Classical language by the President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam in a joint sitting of the two houses of the Indian Parliament.

**2004-09-17** – Tamil is declared the first classical language in India.

**2004-09-21** – The Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) People's War and the Maoist Communist Centre of India merge to form the Communist Party of India (Maoist).

**2005-01-25** – A stampede at the Mandher Devi temple in Mandhradevi in India kills at least 258.

**2005-07-26** – Mumbai, India receives 99.5cm of rain (39.17 inches) within 24 hours, bringing the city to a halt for over 2 days.

**2006-07-06** – The Nathula Pass between India and China, sealed during the Sino-Indian War, re-opens for trade after 44 years.

**2006-07-11** – 209 people are killed in a series of bomb attacks in Mumbai, India.

**2007-07-25** – Pratibha Patil is sworn in as India's first woman president

**2008-10-22** – India launches its first unmanned lunar mission Chandrayaan-1.

**2008-11-26** – Terrorist attacks in Mumbai, India: Ten coordinated attacks by Pakistan-based terrorists kill 164 and injure more than 250 people in Mumbai, India.

**2010-02-13** – A bombing at the German Bakery in Pune, India, kills 10 and injures 60 more.

## **Important Places In India – Historical Places To Visit In India : Part 1**

**Abu, Mount (Rajasthan):** Hill station in Rajasthan; contains famous Dilwara Jain Temple and Training College for the Central Reserve Police.

**Adam's Bridge:** Very nearly joined to India between two point's viz. Mannar Peninsula and Dhanushkodi by a line of sand banks and rocks called Adam's Bridge.

**Adyar (Tamil Nadu):** A Suburb of Chennai, headquarters of the Theosophical Society.

**Afghan Church (Mumbai):** It is built in 1847 known as St. John's Church. It is dedicated to the British soldiers who died in the Sind and Afghan campaign of 1838 and 1843.

**Aga Khan Palace:** In Pune where Mahatma Gandhi was kept interned with his wife Kasturba Gandhi. Kasturbha died in this palace.

**Agra (Uttar Pradesh):** Famous for Taj Mahal, Fort and Pearl mosque. Sikandra, the tomb of Akbar, is situated here. It is also a centre of leather industry.

**Ahmednagar (Maharashtra):** It was founded by Ahmed Nizam Shahi. It is the district headquarters of Ahmednagar district. It is an industrial town well known for its handloom and small scale industries.

**Ahmadabad (Gujarat):** Once capital of Gujarat. A great cotton textile centre of India. Anti-reservation riots rocked the city in April 1985.

**Ajmer (Rajasthan):** It has Mayo College and the tomb of Khwaja Moinud-din Chishti, which is a pilgrim centre for Muslims; Pushkar Lake, a place of Hindu pilgrimage, is about two miles from here.

**Aliabet:** Is the site of India's first off-shore oil well-nearly 45 km from Bhavnagar in Gujarat State. On March 19, 1970, the Prime Minister of India set a 500-tonne rig in motion to inaugurate "Operation Leap Frog" at Aliabet.

**Aligarh (Uttar Pradesh):** Seat of Muslim University, manufacture locks, scissors, knives and dairy products.

**Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh):** A famous and important place of pilgrimage for Hindus, confluence of three rivers-Ganges, Yamuna and the invisible Saraswati. It is the seat of a University and trading centre.

**Alandi (Maharashtra):** Popularly called 'Devachi Alandi' is hallowed by the association of saint Dhyaneswar the author of 'Dhyaneshwari' who lived and attained Samadhi here at the age of twntyone. Two fairs are held annually one on Ashadha Ekadasi and the other Karthikai Ekadasi.

**Amber Palace:** Deserted capital near Jaipur (Rajasthan) containing the finest specimens of Rajput architecture.

**Almora (Uttaranchal):** This city is one the Kashaya hill. The clean and majestic view of the Himalayan Peak is breath catching. The woolen shawl of Almora is very famous in the region. It is a good hill resort.

**Amarnath (Kashmir):** 28 miles from Pahalgam, and is a famous pilgrim centre of Hindus.

**Amboli (Maharashtra):** Nestling in the ranges of Sahyadri, Amboli is a beautiful mountain resort in Ratnagiri district. The climate is cool and refreshing; and ideal place for holiday.

**Amritsar (Punjab):** A border town in the Punjab, sacred place for Sikhs (Golden Temple), scene of Jallianwala Bagh tragedy in April 1919. The 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Amritsar was celebrated with great gusto in October 1977. The city was founded by Guru Ram Dass.

**Arikkamedu (Puducherry):** It is one of the archaeological places. It describes the relationship between Tamils and Romans (Yavanas) for trade purpose.

**Arvi (Maharashtra):** Near Pune, India's first satellite communication centre has been located here.

**Ashoka Pillar (Madhya Pradesh):** It was erected by Emperor Ashoka. It is now the official symbol of Modern India and the symbol is four back-to-back lions. In the lower portion of the column are representation of a lion, elephant, horse and bull. The pillar stands about 20 m high.

**Aurangabad (Maharashtra):** It is one of the important towns in Maharashtra. Tomb of Emperor Aurangzeb and his attract many tourists. Ellora and Ajanta caves are reached from here.

**Auroville (Puducherry):** It is an international township constructed near Pondicherry with the help of UNESCO.

**Avadi:** Situated at Chennai in Tamil Nadu, it is known for the government-owned Heavy Vehicles Factory. Vijayanta and Ajit tanks are manufactured here.

**Ayodhya (Uttar Pradesh):** Birth place of Rama is situated on the banks of the river Gogwa. The famous 'Babri Masjid' built on the birth place of Rama by the Mughal rulers in 15<sup>th</sup> century has been taken over by the Hindus after 400 years.

**Badrinath (Uttarakhand):** It is a place of pilgrimage noted for the temple of Lord Vishnu for the Hindus, near Gangotri Glacier in Himalayas.

**Bahubali (Maharashtra):** A pilgrim center for jains, of both Svetambar and Digambar Jains; there is a giant idol of Shree Bahubali the son of Bhagwan Adinath, the first Tirthankar.

**Bangalore (Karnataka):** It is the capital city of Karnataka State and an important industrial centre. The places worth-seeing are Vidhan Soudha, Lal Bagh gardens, etc. The BHEL, HAL, IIM are situated here.

**Barauni (North Bihar):** Famous for a big oil refinery.

**Bardoli (Gujarat):** Bardoli in Gujarat State has occupied a permanent place in Indian History for no-tax payment campaign launched by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel against the British rule.

**Baroda (Gujarat):** Baroda, (Vadodara) the capital of former Baroda State is one of the main towns in Gujarat State. Laxmi Vilas Palace is a tourist attraction.

**Belur (West Bengal):** Near Calcutta, famous for a monastery founded by Swami Vivekananda; a beautiful temple dedicated to Shri Ramakrishna Paramhansa. It is also known for paper industry. There is another place of the same name in Karnataka, it is a famous pilgrim centre known for Channa Keshava Temple.

**Belgaum (Karnataka):** It is a border town in Karnataka State. It has remained a place of dispute between Maharashtra and Karnataka States.



**Bhakhra (Punjab):** It is a village in Punjab State where the Bhakra Dam has been constructed across the river Sutlej in a natural gorge just before the river enters the plains 80 km upstream Ropar.

**Bhilai (Chhattisgarh):** It is known for the gigantic steel plants set up with the help of Russian Engineers.

**Bhimashankar (Maharashtra):** One of the five Jyothirlingas in Maharashtra is at Bhimashankar. The beautiful Shiva temple here was constructed by Nana Parnavis the ancient statesman of the Peshwas.

**Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh):** Capital of Madhya Pradesh. MIC gas leaked out from the Union Carbide factory in December 1984, and more than 3000 persons died. It was the worst industrial disaster in the world.

**Bhubaneswar (Orissa):** It is the capital city of Orissa. Lingaraja Temple is worth-seeing.

**Bijapur (Karnataka):** It was the capital of old Adil Shahi Sultan of Bijapur. Gol Gumbaz, the biggest tomb in India constructed here, is called the whispering gallery. The town is rich with the remains of palaces, mosques and tombs.

**Bodh Gaya (Bihar):** It is situated six miles south of Gaya in Bihar State. Gautama Budha attained enlightenment in a full moon light in the month of Baisakha under the peepal tree.

**Bokaro (Jharkhand):** The fourth and the biggest steel plant are here.

**Buland Darwaza (Uttar Pradesh):** It is the Gateway of Fatehpur-Sikri built by Akbar. This is the highest and the greatest gateway in India. It was erected to commemorate the victorious campaign of Akbar in the Deccan in 1602 A.D.

**Bull Temple (Karnataka):** It is situated near Bugle Hill, with a height of 6.2 m (20ft) high stone monolith Nandi Bull. The Bull is carved out of a single stone.

**Chandernagore (West Bengal):** Situated on the river Hooghly. It was previously a French settlement. Now it has been merged with the Indian Union.

**Chennai (capital of Tamilnadu):** It is the third largest city in India. Known for Fort St. George, Light-house, St Thomas Mount, and Integral Coach Factory.

**Chandigarh (Punjab & Haryana):** Chandigarh the joint capital of the States of Punjab and Haryana is a planned and beautiful city. It is situated at the foot of the Himalayas. It was designed by Mont Corbusier.

**Cherrapunji (Meghalaya):** It is the place of heaviest rainfall. It receives 426" of rain yearly.

**Chidambaram (Meghalaya):** It is a town in South Arcot district of Tamil Nadu. It is famous for its great Hindu Siva Temple dedicated to Lord 'Nataraja', the cosmic dancer. It is the seat of 'Annamalai University' founded in 1929. The name of the town comes from Tamil 'Chit' plus 'Ambalam' - *the atmosphere of wisdom*.

**Chilka Lake (Orissa):** It is the Queen of Natural Scenery in Orissa, though separated from the Bay of Bengal by a long strip of sandy ridge, exchanges water with the sea. It is an excellent place for fishing and duck shooting.

**Chittaranjan (West Bengal):** It is famous for locomotive works. Railway engines are manufactured here.

**Chittorgarh (Rajasthan):** It was once the capital of Udaipur. It is known for the Tower of Victory built by Rana Kumbha and Mira Bai Temple.

**Chowpathy Beach (Mumbai):** A popular beach with Lokmanya Tilak and Vallabhbhai Patel statues where the political meetings for freedom struggle took place, now the coconut day celebration and Ganesh immersion take place.

**Chusul (Ladakh):** It is situated in Ladakh at a height of about 14,000 feet. Chusul is perhaps the highest aerodrome in India.

**Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu):** It is famous for Textile Industry. Government of India Forest College is situated here.

**Courtallam (Tamil Nadu):** Adjoining Tenkasi and 3 miles south is a common man's health resort. Famous for its waterfall and a good summer resort.

**Cuttack (Orissa):** It is the oldest town and once upon a time the capital of Orissa during the medieval period to the end of the British rules. The city is noted for fine ornamental work of gold & silver.

**Dakshineswar (Kolkata):** It is at a distance of about five miles from Calcutta where Swami Vivekananda was initiated into religious life by Swami Ramakrishna Paramhansa.

**Dalal Street:** Stock exchange Market in Mumbai.

**Dalmianagar (Jharkhand):** Cement manufacturing.

**Dandi (Gujarat):** It is famous for Salt Satyagraha (Dandi March) staged by Mahatma Gandhi in 1930.

**Darjeeling (West Bengal):** Famous for tea, orange and cinchona, fine hill station, famous for its scenic beauty.

**Daulatabad (Maharashtra):** The fort previously called Devagiri is believed to have constructed by the Yadava Kings in 1338. The fort is very impregnable.

**Dayalbagh (Uttar Pradesh):** Near Agra; known for Dayalbagh Industrial Institute, shoe manufacture. Religious and cultural seat of a section of the Hindus.

**Dehu (Maharashtra):** Dehu, a town on the banks of the river Indrayani is the birth place of the famous saint-poet Tukaram whose 'Abhangas' have a pride of place in Marathi literature.

**Dehradun (Uttarakhand):** It is the gateway to the Garhwal Himachal such as Badrinath and Joshimath. The Forest Research Institute is situated here.

**Delhi:** India's capital. The Red Fort, the Jama Masjid, The Qutub Minar, the Rajghat (Mahatma Gandhi's Samadhi), the Humayun's tomb, Shanti Van (where Prime Minister Nehru was cremated), are located here. It established by Tomaras in 736 A.D.

**Dhanbad (Jharkhand):** Famous for coal mines and the Indian School of Mines, National Fuel Research Institute.

**Dhariwal (Punjab):** It is famous for woolen goods.

**Dibrugarh (Assam):** It is a town in Assam and the Terminus of rail and river communications along the Brahmaputra from Calcutta.

**Digboi (Assam):** It is known for its oil-fields and oil refinery. It is one of the oldest oil refineries which is still operative in the world.

**Dilwara Temples (Rajasthan):** It is near Mt. Abu. There are five Hindu Temples constructed here between 11<sup>th</sup> and 13 Century A.D.

**Dindigul (Tamil Nadu):** It is famous for cigar, tobacco and locks.

**Dum Dum (Kolkata):** It is a famous Air Port and Government Arsenal.

**Durgapur:** In West Bengal is known for a gigantic steel plant set up here with the help of British Engineers.

**Dwaraka (Gujarat):** It is one of the seven most important places of Hindu pilgrimage. Krishna the eighth incarnation of Lord Vishnu made Dwaraka as his centre to recapture Mathura.

**Eagle's Nest:** It is the name given to the historic fort at Rajgarh in the Kolaba district of Maharashtra where, 3000 years ago, Chhatrapati Shivaji, the great warrior-statesman, was crowned.

**Elephanta Caves (Maharashtra):** Situated in an island 15 miles from Mumbai famous for the statues of Shiva and Parvati. The most striking statue of Trimurti, Shiva in three moods as the Creator, the Destroyer and the Preserver.

**Ellora and Ajanta (Maharashtra):** It is in Aurangabad district of Maharashtra State. The Buddhist cave temples richly ornamented with sculpture and carved with paintings of exceptional skill attract many tourists.

**Ernakulam (Kerala):** The back-waters in Ernakulam are a tourist attraction. The Central Institute of Fisheries Technology is situated here.

**Faridabad (Haryana):** It is an industrial township situated at about 18 miles from Delhi.

**Fatehpur Sikri (Uttar Pradesh):** It was once the capital of the Mughal Empire. This city was built by Emperor Akbar in 1569. It is now in a deserted condition.

**Ferozabad (Uttar Pradesh):** Noted for glass bangle industry.

**Gateway of India (Mumbai):** It is in Mumbai harbor erected in 1911 on King George V's visit to India.

**Gangotri (Uttarakhand):** This is the source of the holy Ganges. The tiny village has the temple of the Goddess Ganga on the banks of the Bhagirathi River, which eventually becomes the holy Ganges.

**Gaumukha (Uttarakhand):** Gaumukh the actual source of the river is at the base of the Bhagirathi peaks. The glaciers of Gangotri which is 24 km long, ends at Gaumukh where the Bhagirathi river finally appears.

**Gazipur (U.P.):** Known for the government opium factory.



**Gaya (Bihar):** It is the place where Lord Buddha got enlightenment. It is a pilgrimage centre not only for the Buddhists but also for the Hindus. Hindus from all over the country come here to make offerings and pray for the salvation of their ancestors.

**Gilgit (Kashmir):** It is now under the illegal occupation of Pakistan. It is of great strategic importance.

**Golconda (Hyderabad):** It is an ancient city of India situated about 7 miles west of Hyderabad. Formerly there was a diamond mine.

**Golconda Fort (Andhra Pradesh):** The historical fort is well praised in the literature, prose and poetry. Golconda was the capital of Qutub Shahi Sultans who ruled Deccan from 1518 to 1687 A.D.

**Golden Temple (Punjab):** It is a sacred place of the Sikhs in Amritsar.

**Gol Gumbaz (Karnataka):** It is the biggest dome in India.

**Gomateswara (Karnataka):** This is a 2,000 year old and very high statue of a Jain sage, carved out of a single stone.

**Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh):** The famous temple of Gorakhpur is here which specializes in publishing Hindu religious literature.

**Guntur (Andhra Pradesh):** It is a centre of cotton and tobacco production in Andhra Pradesh.

**Gulbarga (Karnataka):** It was the capital of Bahmani Kingdom. Its fort is a remarkable building with 15 towers, within the fort is a large mosque built on the model of the famous mosques of Cordoba in Spain.

**Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh):** Situated in M.P. is famous for Rani Lakshmi Bai's Chaatri and Tansen's tomb.

**Haldighat (Uttar Pradesh):** A famous mountain passes where Rana Pratap fought Mughal forces led by Man Singh and Asaf Khan.

**Hampi (Karnataka):** In Karnataka State is the location of ruins of Vijaynagar. The capital of famous Vijaynagar Empire.

**Hardwar (Uttarakhand):** It is at the base of the Siwalik Hills, where the Ganges River coming down from the Himalayas passes and enters the plains. The Daksha Mahadev Temple, 4 km downstreams in Hardwar is the most important temple.

**Hirakud (Orissa):** Twenty six kilometers from one end to the other on the river Mahanadi is Hirakud the longest mainstream dam in the world.

**Howrah Bridge (Kolkata):** A cantilever spans bridge over river Hoogly connecting Howrah and Kolkata.

**Hyderabad-Secunderabad:** Twin city capital of Andhra Pradesh. It is on the banks of the river 'Musi' and famous for Salarjung museum- one of the best in Asia. It is also a famous communication centre in India as it is centrally situated. Charminar built in 1591 is located here.

**Imphal (Manipur):** Situated in the north-east frontier, is the capital of Manipur state on the border of India and Myanmar (Burmah). Famous for handloom industry and the Manipuri dance.

**Ita Nagar (Arunachal Pradesh):** The capital of Arunachal Pradesh is a tropical forest region in the foothills surrounded with wild mountain stream and placid lakes with abundant opportunities for river rafting, boating and trekking.

**India Gate (New Delhi):** A memorial in New Delhi facing the Rashtrapathi Bhavan.

**Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh):** Standing on the river Narmada, Jabalpur is a city in Madhya Pradesh famous for Marble Rocks and Dhunva Dhar waterfalls.

**Jadugoda:** In Bihar is famous for Uranium Ore Mill.

**Jagdish Temple:** It is a fine Indo-Aryan temple built by Maharana Jagat Singh in 1651. A blackstone image of Lord Vishnu as Lord Jagdish is found here.

**Jaipur (Rajasthan):** A historically important place and is famous for its handicrafts. Maharaja Jai Singh Observatory and Hawa Mahal are situated here. It is the capital of Rajasthan or called rose-pink city, a huge historic fort (Amber) is situated here. The city was founded by astrologer Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II.

**Jaisalmer (Rajasthan):** The remote fortress city on the edge of Rajasthan's Thar Desert. It is 287 km from Jodhpur.

**Jakrem (Tripura):** It is 64 km from Shillong and is known for its hot spring which is said to possess curative qualities.

**Jalandhar (Punjab):** Situated in Punjab is the centre for surgical and sports goods industry.

**Jallianwala Bagh (Amritsar, Punjab):** It was the scene of indiscriminate shooting by General Dyer on 13<sup>th</sup> April 1919, when a meeting was being held. A Martyr's memorial has been erected to commemorate those killed in the firing.

**Jama Masjid (Hyderabad, AP):** The Masjid lies near the North-east point of the building of Charminar, built by Sultan Mohammed Qutub Shah the fifth King of the Qutub Shahi dynasty in 1594.

**Jamshedpur (Jharkhand):** Centre of iron and steel industry. Tata Iron and Steel Factory is located here.

**Jantar Mantar (Delhi):** Site of the famous observatory of Maharaja Jaswant Singh built in 1899 is found in Rajasthan.

**Jealgora:** In Bihar is known for Central Fuel Research Institute.

**Jhansi (Uttar Pradesh):** A key railway junction in Uttar Pradesh. It is noted for the play by Queen Rani Lakshmi Bai of Jhansi in the War of Independence in 1857.

**Jharia:** In Bihar is famous for coal-mining.

**Jog Falls (or) Gersoppa Falls (Karnataka):** Formed by river Sharavati, falls through a height of 830 ft.

**Juma Masjid, Mandu:** Is in Madhya Pradesh. It depicts a synthesis of Hindu and Muslim styles in architecture.

**Junagadh (Gujarat):** Located below Girnar Hill in Gujarat State is an ancient city in India. Gir Forest, a wildlife sanctuary famous for its lions is located here.

**Kailasha Temple (Maharashtra):** A rock-cut temple in Ellora caves.

**Kalpakkam:** Near Chennai in Tamil Nadu is known for Madras Atomic Power Station (MAPS).

**Kanchi or Conjeevaram (Tamil Nadu):** This was the famous capital of Pallavas and is situated near Channai. Famous ancient temples here are well-known for its architecture.

**Kandala (Maharashtra):** It is a popular mountain resort in Maharashtra. Nestling in the Western Ghats it is an ideal resort for a peaceful holiday.

**Kandla (Gujarat):** The Kandla port is the main gateway for the trade of north-west India.

**Kanheri (Mumbai):** Situated near Mumbai, the famous spot of the ancient Buddhist caves of 1<sup>st</sup> Century A.D.

**Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh):** An industrial city of U.P. famous for its sugar, cotton, woolen, soap, iron, leather, tent and hosiery industries situated on the banks of the Ganga.

**Kanyakumari (Tamil Nadu):** The southernmost tip of India where the Arabian Sea, the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean meet. The sun-rising and sun-setting are picturesque scenes. Vevekananda rock memorial has also been constructed now. On the rock called Sripadapara, a mammoth 133 ft. statue of the unmatched Poet-Saint thiruvalluvar was unveiled on 1 January 2000.

**Kapilavastu (Bihar):** Ancient kingdom in north India connected with Lord Buddha.

**Kasauli (Himachal Pradesh):** A hill station in Himachal Pradesh where the famous Pasteur Institute is located.

**Kaveripumpattinam (Tamil Nadu):** The place where the river Cauvery mingles with the ocean. Two great epics of Tamil literature Manimegalai and Silappadhikaram vividly portray life scenes of this place during Chola and Pandya period.

**Kaziranga (Assam):** In Assam is the sanctuary of the Indian one-horned rhinos.

**Kedarnath (Uttarakhand):** The temple of Lord Kedar (Shiva), surrounded by snow-capped peaks in one of the Hindu pilgrimage centres.

**Khadakvasla (Pune):** Near Pune. National Defence Academy is situated here.

**Khajuraho (Madhya Pradesh):** Famous for its temples and erotic sculpture.

**Khindsey Talao (Mumbai):** This beautiful lake is set like a gem in the green expanse at the foot of the Ramtek hill.

**Kodaikanal (Tamil Nadu):** A hill station in Tamil Nadu situated near Madurai.

**Koderma (Bihar):** In Bihar famous for mica mines.

**Kolar (Karnataka):** It is known for its gold fields.

**Kolhapur (Maharashtra):** Kolhapur possesses historical as well as mythological importance. It is known as Dakshin Kashi on account of its deity Mahalakshmi or Ambabai built by Chalukya King Karnadev in 634 AD. Kolhapur was the capital of Chatrapati Shivaji in 1708.

**Kolkata (West Bengal):** It is known as the commercial capital of India. It has a port of heavy traffic. Dum Dum airport, National Library, Diamond harbor, Victoria Memorial are well-known.

**Konark (Orissa):** Town, north of Puri is famous for black pagodas and Sun Temple.

**Koyna (Maharashtra):** Hydroelectric project in Maharashtra, supplies power to Mumbai and Pune. The place was hit by earthquake in December 1967.

**Kundanpur (Bihar):** The birth place of the 24<sup>th</sup> Jain Tirthankar Mahaveer is well-known as a pilgrim centre.

**Kurukshetra (Haryana):** The town near Ambala. Here the great battle Mahabharata took place between Kauravas and Pandavas.

**Leh (Ladakh):** Capital of Ladakh; once a caravan centre of central Asia.

**Lothal (Gujarat):** Oil wells in Cambay Basin.

**Madurai (Tamil Nadu):** Famous Meenakshi Temple dedicated to Lord Siva is located here.

**Mahabaleshwar (Maharashtra):** Hill station in Maharashtra is situated at a height of 4500 ft. in the Western Ghats.

**Mahabalipuram (Tamil Nadu):** Famous for the monumental architecture of Pallavas. An atomic power station is located near at Kalpakkam.

**Mahabodhi Temple (Bihar):** It is a Buddha temple with the Jataka stories engraved on the walls. The famous Magadha University exists beside the temple.

**Maharajgarh Fort (Rajasthan):** Five km away from the centre town of Jodhpur. Commissioned by Rao Jodh in 1559, this fort is a masterpiece of medieval defence.

**Mandore (Rajasthan):** The ancient capital of the Rathore Marwars, the Rajputs of Rajasthan.

**Meerut (Uttar Pradesh):** This was the first place where the 1857 Mutiny first broke out. The Suraj Khund is the most interesting temple and there is a Moghul Mausoleum, near the old Shahi Gate.

**Mirzapur (Uttar Pradesh):** Place of Ram Ganga, famous for cutlery, brassware and mangoes.

**Mukteshwar (Uttar Pradesh):** Veterinary Research Institute is located here.

**Murad (Maharashtra):** Seaside holiday resort of Maharashtra.

**Mathura (Uttar Pradesh):** It is a holy city and birth place of Lord Krishna.

**Meenakshi temple (Tamil Nadu):** Famous Hindu temple in Madurai, Tamil Nadu. It is remarkable for its most picturesque 850 ft. high temple with its magnificent Gopurams. One of its principal structures is the hall of thousand pillars in which a group of figures are carved out of a single stone.

**Mussoorie (Uttarakhand):** A hilly resort has good rock climbing and mountaineering assets and has good fishing spots.

**Mumbai (Maharashtra):** Called the gateway of India is the second biggest city and port in India. It is the capital of Maharashtra state. The Prince of Wales Museum, Aarey Milk Colony, film capital of the country, Centre of oil industry and Petrochemicals, etc. are noteworthy.

**Nagpur (Maharashtra):** Former capital of Madhya Pradesh now in Maharashtra. Famous for textiles and oranges.

**Nagercoil (Tamil Nadu):** There is a temple of snakes or Nagaraja-snake god. The temple is filled with images of snakes and the Dvarapalakas are the snakes guarding the temple.

**Nagarjuna Konda-Sagar (Andhra Pradesh):** The reservoir is named after Buddhist Philosopher Acharya Nagarjuna who propounded the Madhyamik school of Mahayana Buddhism.

**Naharkhatia (Assam):** Place near Digboi in Assam where oil has been struck.

**Nainital (Uttarakhand):** This lake dotted area of the Kumaon Hills, was the summer capital of Uttar Pradesh. The legend believed is that Goddess Shakti lost her eyes when Lord Shiva was curling her and the spot, where the eyes fell became a lake called 'naina' (eyes) Tal (lake) was thus given its name.

**Nalanda (Bihar):** Here was the famous University and Educational centre of ancient's times. The Chinese traveler Hieun Tsang visited India in 7<sup>th</sup> century had mentioned about this University.

**Narsobachiwadi (Maharashtra):** It is a prominent pilgrimage of Lord Shree Dattatreya, situated near the confluence Krishna and the Panchaganga Rivers.

**Nasik (Maharashtra):** Site of Security Printing Press in Maharashtra.

**Nilgiris (Tamil Nadu):** The Blue Mountains of Tamil Nadu. Famous for tea plantation.

**Nilokheri (Haryana):** Place in Haryana, famous community development project of Dr. S. K. Dey.

**Pataliputra (Bihar):** Ancient name or Patna, capital of Bihar State. Famous for Ashoka edicts inscribed on rocks and pillars.

**Palitana (Gujarat):** Famous for its holy hills.

**Pali (Sudhagad, Maharashtra):** One of the most sacred places known for the temple of Vithoba, an incarnation of Lord Vishnu, it is also called Dhakshina Kashi, a pilgrim centre.

**Panipati (Haryana):** Historical place in Haryana, famous for the three battles in 1526, 1556 and 1761.

**Pawapur (Bihar):** It is one of the holiest of Jain Pilgrim places. The Jal Mandir (water temple) in Kamal Sarover (Lotus pool) is most sacred. The big lake filled with lotus is a charming place and the white marble temple stands in the middle.

**Planetarium, Birla (Kolkata):** It is a dome-shaped building where the exact panorama of the sky is depicted, and the position of various constellations is clearly shown. The second planetarium in India has been set up in Mumbai. The third planetarium was opened in New Delhi in 1984.

**Plassey (West Bengal):** A village in West Bengal, famous for the Battle of Plassey where Clive beat Siraj-ud-Daulah.

**Puducherry :** A Union Territory – formerly under French possession. Famous for Aurobindo Ashram and ‘Auroville’ International Township, built in the name of Aurobindo.

**Ponpadirkootam (Tamil Nadu):** A village in Chingleput where a unique four hand Rama in gold is a feast for our eyes.

**Port Blair (Andaman):** Capital of Andaman & Nicobar islands.

**Porbandar (Gujarat):** The Birth Place of Mahatma Gandhi. It is identified with Sudamapur of the epic times and we can still see the old temple of Sudama, a friend of Lord Krishna.

**Pune (Maharashtra):** Pune, capital of Maratha Empire during Shivaji’s rule, had turned to be an educational and cultural centre.

**Puri (Orissa):** Summer capital of Orissa famous for Jagannath Temple.

**Pusa (West Bengal):** Famous for agricultural station.

**Qutub Minar (New Delhi):** The tallest minaret in the world (990 ft. high) completed by Sultan Iltutmish in 1232 A. D.

**Rajghat (New Delhi):** famous for the Samadhi of Mahtama Gandhi on the banks of the river Yamuna.

**Rajgir (Bihar):** Rajgir was called Rajgriha or King’s home in olden days. Ajatashatru named it Giribraja. It was Jarasandha’s capital. Vardhaman Mahavir, who preached the Jain Religion and spent 14 years of his active life here, Mahaveer called his first Dharma Sabha or religious assembly on Bipul Parbat here.

**Rashtrapati Bhavan (New Delhi):** The official residence of the President of India in Delhi, built by the British architect Edwin Lutyens.

**Ratnagiri (Maharashtra):** British place of Lokmanya Tilak. It has a minor port Bhagvati and a fort belonging to the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

**Rameshwaram (Tamil Nadu):** A pilgrimage spot in South India as equal to that of Benaras. There is the temple of Lord shiva.

**Red Fort (Delhi):** It is a fort built of red stone by Shah Jahan in Delhi on the Banks of the river Yamuna. It consists of Diwan-i-Am, diwan-i-Khas and other wonderful crations. In 2007, UNESCO announced the Red Fort as one of the Heritage site in India.

**Rishikesh (Uttarakhand):** It is a Hindu pilgrim centre. Rishikesh is the starting point for treks to Himalayan pilgrimage centre like Badrinath, Kedarnath and Gangotri.

**Rourkela (Orissa):** Rourkela is the first steel plant of India envisaged in the public sector and has been in operation since February 1959 which has set in a new era in the Steel Industry of India.

**Salar Jung Museum (Andhra Pradesh):** It is the personal collection of Mir Yusuf Ali Khan, better known as Salar Jung who had devoted his wealth and leisure to gather out treasures from every walk of life.

**Sambhar (Rajasthan):** It is a salt lake in Rajasthan. Only lake of its kind in India.

**Sanganer (Rajasthan):** It is the centre of hand block printing and handmade paper industry.

**Sabarmati (Gujarat):** It is a place in Gujarat where Gandhiji established a Harijan Ashram. It is also the name of a river in Gujarat.

**Sathanur Dam (Tamil Nadu):** 22 miles from Tiruvannamalai a vast forest has been turned into a huge reservoir and a dam is a tourist spot.

**Satara (Maharashtra):** It is a glorious historical city, was capital of Shivaji's empire in 1699.

**Sanchi (Madhya Pradesh):** Famous Buddhist stupa, the diameter of which is 108 ft. was built in ancient times. It is the largest stupa in India.

**Sarnath (Madhya Pradesh):** It is a Buddhist pilgrim centre. In the Deer Park, Buddha-delivered his first sermon. Famous Ashoka Pillar is located here.

**Srirangapattanam (Karnataka):** It was the capital of Tipu Sultan during his time. The third Mysore war was fought here and Tipu died in the battle in 1799 A.D.

**Sevagram (Maharashtra):** It is near Wardha in Maharashtra State. It is well-known for Gandhiji's Ashram where Gandhi lived and worked for many years.

**Shantiniketan (West Bengal):** About 90 miles from Calcutta, seat of the famous Viswa Bharati University founded by poet Rabindernath Tagore. It is now a Central University.

**Shanti Van or Shanti Ghat (Delhi):** The place where Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru was cremated on 28<sup>th</sup> May, 1964 on the banks of Yamuna about 300 yards from Rajghat, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri has been cremated by the side of Shanti Van. Mrs. Indira Gandhi was cremated close to Shanti Van on November 3, 1984. This site is called 'Shakti Sthal'.

**Shivneri (Maharashtra):** It is the birth place of Chhatrapati Shivaji. The hill has about 50 Buddhist caves bearing inscription of various donors.

**Sholapur (Maharashtra):** 'Sholapur Chaddan's are the very famous bed-sheets. Handloom and power loom industry is flourishing in this town. Near the city a fort built by Hasan Gangu who was the founder of the Bahaman dynasty stands erect.

**Shree Kshetra Audumbar (Maharashtra):** An important pilgrim place in Sangli district, Audumbar is famous for the temple of Shree Dattatreya. There is well-known "Brahmanand Swami Math".



**Sasaram (Bihar):** It is known for Shere Shah's Tomb. Sher Shah was the famous Afghan king who drove away Humayun.

**Shivapur (Madhya Pradesh):** It is well-known for its national park in Madhya Pradesh.

**Sibsagar (Assam):** 56 km from Jorhat is most interesting historical city. It was the capital of Ahom Kings who ruled Assam for 600 years. The Shiva temple called the "Shivadol" is said to be the tallest Shiva Temple in India.

**Sikandra (Uttar Pradesh):** Situated near Agra, Akbar's tomb stands here. It was commenced by Akbar and completed by his son Jahangir, after 14 year at a cost of Rs. 15 Lakhs.

**Singareni (Andhra Pradesh):** It is well-known for coal mines in Andhra Pradesh.

**Sindri (Jharkhand):** The largest fertilizer factory in India and the whole of Asia is in Sindri, 77 km from Maithan. It is built on Ultra-modern lines and manufacturing ammonium sulphate fertilizer since 1956. The factory can be visited with prior permission.

**Somnath (Gujarat):** It is historically famous for the temple which was destroyed by Mohammed of Ghazni in 1025 A. D.

**Somnath Patan (Gujarat):** Wedged in between the two hills of Chadragiri and Indragiri, which rise abruptly from flat plains, Sravanabelagola 100 kms from Mysore is famous for Jain colossus (17 m height) Gomateswara which is said to be the tallest and most graceful monolithic statues in the world, erected in 10<sup>th</sup> century A.D.

**Sriharikota (Andhra Pradesh):** India's Satellite launching station is located here. It is on the Andhra coast, in Nellore District.

**Sriperumbudur (Tamil Nadu):** Birth Place of Sri Ramanuja, the propounder of Vishistadvaita. It was here Rajiv Gandhi; former Prime Minister of India was assassinated.

**Srirangam (near Trichy, Tamil Nadu):** The largest temple in South India dedicated to Lord Ranganath (Vishnu).

**Sundarbans (West Bengal):** It is the largest delta in India, housing rich forests.

**Surat (Gujarat):** It is popularly known as "Gate of Mecca". The English got trading rights from the Mughal in 1612. Most of the population is engaged in diamond cutting and polishing gold and silver. Surat is equally known for its distinctive cuisine.

**Taj Mahal (Agra, Uttar Pradesh):** Erected by Shah Jahan in memory of his wife Mumtaz. It has been estimated that the cost of it was about Rs. 3 crores at that time. It is tear drop on the cheek of eternity. It was designed by Shiraz (Iranian Architect). Over 20,000 men were employed for its construction for over twenty years. The environmentalists fear that the beauty of the Taj would be marred, with the Mathura Oil Refinery going into full operation.

**Tawang (Arunachal Pradesh):** It has a monastery of the Mahayana sect of Buddhists built in 17<sup>th</sup> century. Still it is the centre of religious life and rituals in the region. It is a treasure home of old scriptures, priceless images and painted tapestries.

**Thanjavur (Tamil Nadu):** Popularly known as granary of South India. It was once the capital of the Cholas. Famous for Brihadeeswara temple, a Hindu temple. It was built by Rajaraja, the great.

**Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala):** The Capital City of Kerala State. Padmanabha Temple is here.

**Thumba (Kerala):** India's first rocket launching station.

**Thiru Alangadu (Tamil Nadu):** Thirty seven miles from Chennai to the west and very near to Arakonam is the holy place of Thiru Alangadu connected with Karaikkal Ammayar and the cosmic dancer Lord Nataraja.

**Thiruvalem (Tamil Nadu):** Capital of 'Banars' during the early Pallava period is famous for Saivite temple with the Nandi not facing the deity but in the opposite direction.

**Thekkady (Tamil Nadu):** The central spot of the Periar wildlife sanctuary is in between Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

**The Mysore Palace (Karnataka):** Built in 1897, it was the residence of the Ex-ruler of Mysore state is an imposing structure. It is a good example for the Hoysala art and architectures.

**Tiruchi (Tamil Nadu):** It is an Educational Centre in Tamil Nadu. Bharat Heavy Electricals limited is established here.

**Tiruparankundram (Tamil Nadu):** A cave temple near Madurai is one of the famous shrines of Lord Muruga.

**Tirunelveli (Tamil Nadu):** A famous early Chola Vaishnavite shrine housing a huge stucco image of Varaha holding Bhudevi near Mahabalipuram in Tamil Nadu.

**Tipu's Fort (Karnataka):** The fort is built of mud by kempegowda in 1537; it was rebuilt in stone in 1761 by Hyder Ali. Inside the fort walls is Tipu Sultan's wooden palace with enough elaborate paint work surviving on the walls, niches, and railing columns to give an idea of its former glory.

**Triveni (Uttar Pradesh):** Here meet the rivers Ganges, the Yamuna and the mythical Saraswathi. Kumba Mela is celebrated here once in 12 years when the Sun is in Aquarius facing Jupiter in the zodiac sign Leo.

**Trithamukh (Tripura):** It is a popular pilgrim centre for the Tribal people of Tripura. Thousands of people assemble here in January-February during the festival called *Uttarayana Sankranti* and have a holy bath in the river Gomati.

**Tripolia Gate (Rajasthan):** A gate with eight carved marble crunches under which the ruler was weighed on his birth day against money of equal weight distributed to the poor. The city was found in 1567 by Maharana, Udai Singh.

**Udaipur (Rajasthan):** Popularly known as city of lakes. Pichola lake is a famous one.

**Udipi (Karnataka):** This is the seat of Dvaita system of Hindu Philosophy propounded by Sri Madhva Changa. The beautiful Sri Krishna temple is very famous Hindu pilgrimage centre.

**Udayagiri-Khandagiri Caves (Orissa):** These two hills are little far away from Bhubaneswar. This was a seat of a Jain saint who lived 2000 years ago. 'Rani Gumphā' and 'Hathi Gumphā' are the most famous; consist of the rock cut inscription in India which records chronologically the deeds of king Kharavela.

**Uttiramerur (Tamil Nadu):** A city near Chingleput boasts of Sundara-varadaperumal temple of the period of Dandivarma Pallava is of complex design.

**Ujjain (Madhya Pradesh):** Mahakaleeswar Temple is sacred for the Hindus.

**Vaishali (Bihar):** Vaishali has witnessed the major parts of Gautama Buddha's life. He gave his last message to his disciples at Kolhua village in the suburbs of Vaishali. On the eve of Buddha's death centenary, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Buddhist council was held here. The 24<sup>th</sup> Jain Tirthankar Vardhaman Mahavir was born at Kundagram in the suburbs of Vaishali in 599 BC.

**Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh):** 'The Eternal City' is an important pilgrimage of the Hindus. Lord Viswanatha's temple is here. It was a learning place for over 2000 years. Kashi and Benaras are the other two names of Varanasi which means the city between two rivers – Varanama and Asi. It is the seat of Banaras Hindu University. Aurangzeb's Mosque is here.

**Vedanthangal (Tamil Nadu):** A bird sanctuary in the swamps of Madurantakam lake.

**Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh):** It is a natural and protected harbor on the eastern coast in Andhra Pradesh. A shipbuilding yard is located here.

**Vivekananda Rock (Tamil Nadu):** Mandapam of Vivekananda is in Cape Comerin.

**Victoria Memorial (Kolkata):** Magnificent building having an art gallery depicting the history of the British rule in India. It was erected by voluntary collections in the memory of Queen Victoria. A well laid out garden adds to the beauty.

**Wardha (Maharashtra):** It is a cotton producing centre in Maharashtra. It is on Chennai-Delhi rail route. Mahatma Gandhi was imprisoned here.

**Warrangal (Andhra Pradesh):** It has historical evidence about on the seat of the Kakatiya rulers. Its chief tourist attraction is the thousand pillared temple at Hanam-Konda built by King Rudra Deva in 12<sup>th</sup> century.

**Yamunotri (Uttarakhand):** It is the source of the Yamuna River. It emerges from the frozen lake of ice and glaciers on the Kalinga Parvat. There is a temple of the goddess Yamunotri on the left banks of the river. Below the temple there are many hot springs where the water emerges at boiling point.

**Yercaud (Tamil Nadu):** It is a hill station 8 km away from Salem at an altitude of 5000 ft. It is a part of Servarayan hills.

**Zojila (Jammu & Kashmir):** It is a pass on the way from Srinagar to Leh.

## **Ancient India : Important Facts Of Indian History**

The Harappan Fort in the shape of a parallel square is 460 yards in length (north-south) 215 yards in breadth (east-west) and 15-17 yards in height.

- The script of Indus civilization was pictorial in which there were more than 600 picture-letters and 60 original letters.
- The excavations of Chanhudaro were carried out in 1925 under the leadership of Earnest M'ckay. This town had no fort.
- Naal, Daburkot, Rakhi Garhi, Banawali, Rangpur, Lothal, Des Morasi, Kulli, Rana Ghundai, Anjira, Gumla, Amri, Ghundai, Mundigak, Diplabaga, Sahar-i-Sokhta, Bampur and Queta etc. are famous historical sites where the remains of Indus civilization and pre Indus civilization have been excavated.
- Daburkot, Periano, Ghundai, Kulli, Mehi, Chanhudaro, Amri, Lohumjodaro, Alimurad, Ropar, Rangpur, Sutkegender are the prominent (spots) places of Indus Valley civilization.
- The excavations of Kalibangan, a historical place in Rajasthan began in 1961 under the direction of B. K. Thapar and B. B. Lal. From the lower layer of the excavation, the remains of pre Indus civilization and from the upper layer of the Indus civilization are discernible. The fortress and the city both were surrounded with walls.
- The excavations at Rangpur—an Indus site in Gujarat were carried out in 1953-54 under the leadership of Rangnath Rao. Forts of raw bricks, drainage, terrecota utensils, weights and slabs of stone have been found but the idol of mother Goddess (Matridevi) and coins have not been found.
- Lothal was situated at that time near the ocean. In excavations the remains of a dockyard have been found which testify to the trade relations of Indus people with western Asia.
- In the district of Kutchh in Gujarat state, 12 kms north-east of Adesar is situated Surkotda which was explored and excavated in 1964 under the guidance of Jagatpati Joshi.
- In the excavation of Indus civilization, a very big building has been explored. It is 242 ft long and 112 ft broad. The walls are 5 ft thick.
- Some figurines on tables have been found in Indus civilization in the centre of which is a round shaped Sun and around it are the pictures of 6 gods arranged in a way that they appear as if they are the Sun beams. This testifies to the worship of Sun in the period.
- The proof of the existence of a Man-like being are 1 crore to 20 lacs years old.
- In the Indian population, there are four basic racial sub-difference. These are Negrito, Astro Australians, Kakeshisi and Mongoloids.
- In India, skeletons (human body in bones-kankal) have been found in Sarai Nahar Rai near Allahabad, Bataikhor and Lekhanua. High in length, flat nose and broad mouth are their characteristics. These belong to Mesolithic age.
- The pre stone civilisation came to be known in the region of river Sohan a subsidiary of Sindhu. Hence it is called Sohan civilization. The Vatikapoom in the form of (Gandasa) axe and Khandak were its main implements.
- In Harappan culture, the worship of Earth as goddess was in vogue. This is indicated by the idol of a woman with a plant growing out of her womb.
- Along with the Elephants, Rhinoceros, Buffalos, Lions and Deers, the picture of Yogi engraved on a seal (Muhar) suggests the worship of Shiva in Harappan civilization. This god had three heads and he sat with crossed legs.
- The Talismans obtained in large numbers indicate that the people of Harappan culture believed in witchcraft or the dead souls. These talismans were made of bronze and copper in the form of plate.
- In Harappan culture the weight (for measuring) were 16 or of its multiplied numbers.
- The dogs and cats were the domesticated animals and their foot prints confirm this fact.
- The remains of the horses have been found at Surkotda. The existence of the horse is not known from the upper layer of Mohanjodaro excavation. The terrecota small figurines provide knowledge about it.
- The people of Lothal used rice in 1800 B.C.
- As Sindh was one of the oldest region for cultivating cotton, the Greeks named it as Sedon.

- In Harappan culture, silver was obtained from Afghanistan, Iran, South India, Arabia and Baluchistan. Gold was imported from Afghanistan and Persia.
- The stone Lajward was brought from Badakshan, Feroza was brought from Iran. Jayumani was brought from Maharashtra, Moonga and redstone were brought from Saurashtra and Western India and the precious greenstone (Panna) was brought from Central Asia.
- The Ahar culture (Rajasthan) belonged to the Copper age. The houses were built of stone and a mixture of lime and soil. Paddy was cultivated and Metal Work in Bronze were in vogue. All these were the characteristics of this culture which existed about 2000 B.C.
- The remains of Malwa stone and Bronze culture have been found in Navdatoli where the houses were built of mud, bamboo and dry grass in a square and round shape. The terrecota utensils and agricultural products of wheat, oil seeds, pulses (Masur) and green and black gram are the characteristics of this culture.
- The Rishis (Sages) like Gritsamad, Vishwamitra, Bhardwaj, Atri and Vashishta composed the Suktas or the Vedic Mantras.
- The prominent female sages were Lopamudra, Ghosa, Shachi and Poulomi.
- Sam Ved is divided into three branches—(1) Kouthum, (2) Ranayaniya, (3) Jaminiya.
- Prominent among the Ayurvedacharyas were Acharya Ashwini Kumar, Dhanvantari, Banabhatt, Sushrut, Madhav, Jeevan and Lolimbaraja etc.
- Ayur Ved is an ‘Upaved’ of Rig Ved, Dhanur Ved is ‘Upaved’ of Yajur Ved, Gandharva Ved is the ‘Upaved’ of Sam Ved and Shilpa Ved is the ‘Upaved’ of Atharva Ved.
- Rig Ved has two Brahmins—(1) Aitereya, (2) Kaushitaki.
- Krishna Yajur Ved has the Brahmin—Taittiriya and Shukla Yajur Ved has the Shatpath Brahmin.
- The Brahmins of Sam Ved are Tandav, Panchvish, Sadvish and Chhandogya.
- The Aranyakas deal with life, death and other serious themes. These are written and studied in loneliness of the forests.
- Aitereya and Kaushitaki are the Aranyakas of Rig Ved. The author of Aitereya was Mahidas Aitereya.
- Taittiriya Aranyaka belongs to Krishna Yajur Veda.
- Sam Ved and Atharav Ved have no Aranyakas.
- Prominent among the Upanishads are Ish, Ken, Kath, Prashn, Mundak, Mandukya, Taittiriya, Aitereya, Chhandogya, Vrihadaranyak, Shwetashwara, Kaushitaki and Mahanarayana.
- During the Rigvedic period Nishk was an ornament for the neck; Karnashobhan was an ornament for the ear and Kumbh was the ornament for the head.
- In the Rigvedic age, the Aryans domesticated the cow, the buffalo, goat (ajaa), horse, elephant and camel etc.
- Bheeshaj was the person who treated the sick people.
- The Rigvedic Aryans worshipped the Sun as Savita, Mitra, Pooshan and Vishnu. Sun was called the ‘Eye of Gods’; and Agni the ‘Mouth of Gods’. Agni was considered to be the Purohit of the Aryans. They thought that the offering of the Yajna reaches to the gods through Agni. Varun was worshipped as a spatial god.
- In Rig Veda, Usha, Sita, Prithvi, Aranyani, Ratri, Vak are worshipped as goddesses.
- Besides Rig Ved, the reference of Sita as the goddess of agriculture is made in Gomil Grihya Sutra and Paraskar Grihya Sutra.
- The ancient idols of Ganesh show his main weapons as Paash and Ankush.
- In the Rigvedic age the traders were called ‘Pani’. They stole away the cattle of the Aryans.
- Das’ or Dasyas were more hated than the ‘Pani’. They have been referred as black complexioned inauspicious and opposed to Yajnas. They were the worshippers of Phallus (Shishnadev).
- In the Rigvedic age, the cow was the backbone of economy. It was called ‘Aghanya’—not to be killed, war has been referred as Gavisthi, the guest as Mohan and the daughter as Duhiti. One Rik refers to the domestication of sheep.
- Vashishtha who replaced Vishwamitra as Purohit of King Sudas, has been mentioned as adopted son of Urvashi, and born of the ‘Virya’ of Mitra and Varun on an earthen pot.
- Ballabh and Tarukshadas were chieftains who lavishly donated to the Purohites and through their grace obtained respect and high place in the Aryan society.



- Savitri is referred in the famous Gayatri Mantra. In Rig Ved the maximum reference is made of Indra. After him Varun is referred to. In the earlier Richas Varun and Marut have been mentioned as 'Gan'. Twasta also was a Vedic God.
- Prajapati has been referred as the Adi Purush—the first human (male). The gods were his children.
- In Rig Ved, the king has been mentioned as the Protector of the clan or the Gopta Janasya. The reference to Sabha, Samiti, Gan, Vidath is made as the Tribal Councils.
- No bureaucracy developed in Rigvedic age. Yet the officer of Gochar land were called Vrajpati, the officer of the village was called Gramani. He was the commander. The chief of the family is referred as 'Kulap'.
- The words like Vrat, Gan, Gram and Shardh have also been used for indicating the group of Soldiers.
- In Rig Ved Jan is used 275 times, Vish is used 170 times. Sangram is the word which indicates war between the villages.
- The God of Vegetation. It was also an intoxicating drink and the method of its preparation is referred in the Rig Ved.
- The later Vedic literature was written during 1100 to 600 B.C. The painted grey ware—bowls and plates were used and the tools which they used were made of iron.
- The main crop of the later Vedic age was wheat and paddy instead of barley.
- In the later Vedic age, the Vidath were extinct but the Sabha and the Samiti existed.
- In this period, the King performed the rites of Rajsuya Yajna with a desire to obtain divine power, Ashwamedha Yajna to expand the empire and the Vajpeya Yajna for chariot racing with friends and relatives of his Gotra.
- The Gotra system began in the later Vedic age. The custom of marrying outside the Gotra also started.
- In the literature of later Vedic age, the first three Ashrams are mentioned—(1) Brahmcharya, (2) Grihastha, (3) Banprastha. The Sanyas Ashram is not mentioned.
- In later Vedic period the plant Som could not be obtained easily. As such other drinks were also used.
- Gold and Silver were mainly used for making ornaments and utensils. Other metals were used for making many other implements in the later Vedic era.
- In later Vedic period, the commercial classes (Traders) organized themselves in 'Sangh'. The Aryans conducted sea trade. Nisk, Satman and Krishal were used as coins for trade purposes.
- In comparison to the religion of Rigvedic period, the later Vedic religion had become very complex. Purohits, Yajna and sacrifice were considered important. Many types of Yajnas were performed.
- The Shatpath Brahman refers to the various steps in progress of cultivation—Jutai (ploughing), Buwai (planting), Lawani (weaning), Mandai (cutting) are the various processes mentioned in it.
- Sangam literature is compiled in 8 books. They are—(1) Narune, (2) Kuruntoge, (3) Aigunuru, (4) Padirupyuttu, (5) Paripadal, (6) Karlittorga, (7) Nedultoge, (8) Purnanuru.
- In the Sangam age, the Tamil Grammar was written in a detailed book, 'Tolakappiyam'.
- With the songs of the musicians, the dancers known as Panar and Widelier used to dance.
- Pedinekilankanku is a famous composition of Sangam literature.
- Sangam is a Sanskrit word meaning a Congregation and a Council.
- The main theme of the Sangam literature is 'Romance' (Shringar) and heroism (Veergatha). Shringar is called as 'Aham' and Veergatha has been called as 'Puram'.
- The first Sangam was organized at Madurai under the chairmanship of Rishi Agastya.
- The second Sangam was organized at Kapatpuram again under the chairmanship of Rishi Agastya.
- The third Sangam was organized at Madurai and it was chaired by 'Nakkirar'.
- Avey was the family of Sangam age which meant Sabha (assembly).
- Panchvaram was the assembly of the advisors of the King of Sangam age.
- Ur was the institution which looked after the city administration.
- The excavation of Arikmedu, provide enough evidence to prove that once upon a time, the cantonements of the Roman traders resided there.
- The teachers in the Sangam age were called as Kanakkaters.
- The students in the Sangam age were called Bhanwan or Pillai.

- Parshvanath arranged for fourfold vows (Chaturvrata) for the Bhikshus (monks)—(1) I shall not kill the living beings, (2) I shall always speak the truth, (3) I shall not steal, (4) I shall not keep any property.
- Mahavir Swami has been called Nigashtha, Naatputra and Nirgranth Saatputra.
- Mahavir Swami left his mortal frame and attained Nirvana at Pawapuri near Patna in Bihar.
- The Triratna in Jainism are described as Samyak Shraddha (veneration), Samyak Gyan (knowledge) and Samyak Acharana (conduct).
- According to Jainism, Nirvana (redemption) to free the soul from the physical bondage.
- Mahavir Swami has described five vows for the common people which are called as Panchmaha-vrat. These are—Truth, Non-violence, No stealing, No collection of wealth or anything and celibacy (Satya, Ahimsa, Asteya, Aparigraha and Brahmacharya). To these was later added, 'Not to eat at Night'.
- Kaivalya is total knowledge which the Nirgranth get.
- Buddha was born in the Lumbini forest, 14 km beyond Kapilvastu in Nepal Tarai.
- Kaundinya, a Brahmin astrologer, was contemporary of Buddha.
- Gautam obtained knowledge at Gaya. Hence the place is called Bodhi Gaya.
- The first sermon of Buddha is known as 'Dharma Chakra Pravartan'.
- Mahatma Buddha delivered his first sermon at Rishipattan (Sarnath).
- The followers of Buddha were divided into four sections—(1) Bhikshu or the monks, (2) Bhikshuni or lady monks, (3) Upasaks or devotees, (4) Upasikas or lady devotees.
- After delivering his teachings for constant 45 years, Mahatma Buddha attained Mahaparinirvan at the age of 80 at Kushinara (Kushinagar).
- Tripitaks are—(1) Vinay Pitak, (2) Suttapitak, (3) Abhidhamma Pitak.
- Vinay Pitak is divided into 3 sections—(1) Sutta Vibhag, (2) Khandhak, (3) Pariwar.
- Suttapitak contains—Diggh Nikay, Majjhim Nikay, Anguttar Nikay and Khuddak Nikay.
- In Abhidhamma Pitak, philosophical and spiritual thoughts are contained.
- There are seven treatises of Abhidhamma Pitak —(1) Dhamma Sangeeti, (2) Vibhanga, (3) Dhatu Katha, (4) Puggala Panjati, (5) Katha Vastu, (6) Yamaka, (7) Patthana.
- The eightfold paths are—(1) Right belief, (2) Right thought, (3) Right speech, (4) Right action, (5) Right means of livelihood, (6) Right execution, (7) Right remembrance, (8) Right meditation.
- In Buddhism, the Astangikmarg (eight fold path) is classified as—(1) Praja Skandh, (2) Sheel Skandh, (3) Samadhi Skandh.
- Under Praja Skandh come—Samyak Drishti, Samyak Sankalp and Samyak Vani (speech).
- Under Sheel Skandh come—Samyak Karmant, Samyak Ajaeev.
- Under Samadhi Skandh come—Samyak Vyayam, Samyak Smriti and Samyak Samadhi.
- Mahatma Buddha was silent on the existence of God or otherwise but he did not believe in the existence of soul.
- The first Buddhist Council was convened after a few years of Buddha's death under the chairmanship of Mahakassapa in Saptaparna caves near Rajgriha.
- The second Buddhist Council was organized at Vaisali.
- The third Buddhist Council was convened at Patliputra during the regime of Asoka.
- The fourth Buddhist Council was convened at Kashmir during the regime of Kanishka.
- Purans are said to be 18 in number of which Bhagwat Puran is very renowned.
- Bhagwatism is mentioned for the first time in the Bhishm Parva of Mahabharat.
- The Dravida Vaishnav devotees are known as the Alvars.
- A Brahman named Kautilya or Chanakya played a significant role in the establishment of the Mauryan empire.
- In the Greek writings, Chandra Gupta Maurya is called Sandrocottus.
- Arian and Plutarch have called him Androcottus.
- In the Mudra Rakshas written by Vishakhadutta, Chandra Gupta Maurya is called Chandragiri Chandrashree.
- In Buddhist literature, Mahavansh Tika is the book which throws ample light on the life of Chandra Gupta Maurya.



- 'Indika' was written by Megasthenese.
- In the book Mahavansh, Chandra Gupta Maurya is said to be Kshatriya by caste.
- After being defeated in war with Chandra Gupta, Selukose offered him Gadrosia (Baluchistan), Acrosia (Kandahar), Aria (Herat) and a part of Hindukush.
- Sudarshan Lake at Junagarh was built by Chandra Gupta Maurya.
- The Mahasthan inscription points out Chandra Gupta's ascendancy over Bengal.
- The Rudradaman inscription of Girnar testifies to the suzerainty of Chandra Gupta over Saurashtra.
- According to Jain Texts, Chandra Gupta in the last years of his life, accepted Jainism and went to Mysore with the Jain monk Bhadrabahu.
- The empire of Chandra Gupta spread from Himalaya in the north to Mysore in the south; and from Bengal in the east to Baluchistan in the west. It covered Punjab, Sindh, Kashmir, Doab of Ganga and Yamuna, Magadh, Bengal, Malwa, Saurashtra and the region of Mysore.
- The administrative system of Chandra Gupta Maurya was Monarchy. In order to administer well, Chandra Gupta Maurya appointed a Council of Ministers.
- In the Mauryan age, the officer who collected the trade taxes was called Shulkadhyaksha.
- The Chairman of the Government services was known as Sutradhyaksha in the Mauryan age.
- The officer-in-charge of Weight and Measures was known as Peetadhyaksha in the Mauryan age.
- In Mauryan age, the officer who controlled the manufacture of wine, its sale and purchase and its consumption was Suradhyaksha.
- The chairman of the agricultural department was called Seetadhyaksha in Mauryan age.
- There were many officers such as Ganikadhyaksha, Mudradhyaksha, Navadhyaksha, Ashwadhyaksha and Devtadhyaksha etc. in the Mauryan Age.
- The officer who kept the details of total income and expenditure of the State and decided the economic policy was called Sannidhata. Under him, worked officers like Treasurer and Shulkadhyaksha.
- In Mauryan age, the minister of factories and mines was called Karmanthirak. His main task was to excavate different metals from the mines and look after the factories.
- In Mauryan age the Amatya of Fauzdari (Criminal) Court was called Pradeshta.
- The Amatya of the Civil Court was known as Vyavaharik.
- The Greek scholars have described the Amatyas as the seventh caste.
- The successor of Chandra Gupta Maurya is called name Bindusara in majority of the Puranas. Ceylonese works, Buddhist texts and in Deepvansh and Mahavansh. In Vayu Puran, his name is given as Bhadrasaar. In some of the Purans he is called as Varisaar. In the Chinese text—Fa-Uen-Chu-Lin, he is called as Bindupal. In another book Rajabalikatha, the successor and son of Chandra Gupta is called as Sinhasen.
- Ptolemy, the ruler of Egypt sent Dioniyas as his ambassador to the Court of Bindusaar.
- In Chandra Gupta Maurya's time, the chief of the city was called Nagaradhyaksha who worked like the modern District Magistrate.
- The smallest unit of the administration was the village. Its chief officer was called Gramik or Gramani.
- Gramani was elected by the people of the village.
- In every village, there was an officer who was called Gram Bhojak.
- In the administration of Chandra Gupta Maurya the department of espionage was well organized. According to Kautilya, there were two sections of the secret service—(1) Sansthan, (2) Sancharan.
- In the inscriptions, Asoka is called Devanampriya and Priyadarshi.
- The Ceylonese sources and Deepvansh, call him, Priyadarshan and Priyadarshi. Scholars think that these were his titles.
- Asoka appointed an officer called Mahamatras in every city and district.
- In the 13th year of his reign, he appointed Dharma Mahamatra and Dharmayukta for the first time for the happiness and peace of his people.
- Upagupta was a Buddhist monk of Mathura under his influence, Asoka changed his religion and accepted Buddhism.
- Asoka sent his daughter Sanghamitra and son Mahendra to spread Buddhism in Sri Lanka.

- In the mini edicts Asoka calls himself a Buddha Shakya.
- Asoka sent Majjhantika to propagate Buddhism in Kashmir.
- In 1750, it was Teffenthaler who first explored the Asokan pillars.
- Asoka's last edict was found by Beadon in 1915 at Maski.
- The small edicts of Asoka are of two types. According to Smith, they were written in 259-232 B.C.
- The first kind of Asokan small pillar edicts are available at Roopnath in Jabalpur district, Sahasaram in Shahabad district of Bihar, Maski, in Raichoor district, and Vairat in Rajasthan.
- The second type of Asokan edicts have been found at Siddhpur (Chitralahug, Mysore) Jatig, Rameshwar and Brahmagiri.
- The Bhabru edict was found at Bairath near Jaipur in Rajasthan. In this edict seven precepts of Buddhism have been given which Asoka liked most and he desired that the people should read them and make their conduct accordingly. This edict is preserved in Kolkata Museum.
- Two edicts about Kalinga have been found at Dhauri and Jaugarh. In these, the principles of behaviour with the people of Kalinga and with the frontier people have been outlined.
- Asokan small edicts have been found at about 15 places.
- The Erangudi edict was found in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh at a place known as Erangudi.
- The Maski small edict was found from Maski village of Raichoor district of Andhra Pradesh. It contains the name of Asoka.
- The Rajul Mandgiri edict was found on a mound 20 miles beyond Erangudi in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh.
- The Gurjara edict has been found from a village named Gurjara in Datia district of Madhya Pradesh. It also mentions the name of Asoka.
- Ahraura edict was found from a hill of the village Ahraura in Mirzapur district of U.P.
- Palgoraria edict was found in 1975.
- The Sannati inscription (edict) has been found in the village Sannati in the district of Gulbarga of Karnataka State.
- The cave inscription are three in number which have been found in the Barabar hills of Gaya city in Bihar. These refer to the charity performed by the King to the Ajivaks.
- The language of the Kandahar edict is Greek and Aramaic.
- The Topara pillar edict has been found from a village named Topara in Haryana. In the course of time Firoz Tughlaq brought it to Delhi where it is kept at Feroz Shah Kotla ground.
- Rumindei small pillar edict was found from the Tarai of Nepal.
- Most of Asokan edicts are written in Prakrit language.
- In Gupta age ships and boats were manufactured in large numbers. Gujarat, Bengal and Tamil Nadu were the main centres of cotton industry.
- Trade between India and China was carried on before Gupta age, in 2nd century.
- India had trade relations with eastern countries. They were called Swarnabhumi (land of gold).
- Peshawar, Bharauch, Ujjaini, Varanasi, Prayag, Patliputra, Mathura, Vaishali and Tamralipti were trade centres.
- In west Bharauch and in east, Tamralipti were prominent ports.
- Gold, silver, bronze, tin, campher, dates and horses were imported.
- The collective unit of the people who worked in various industries, were known as 'Kuliks'.
- 'Kulik Nigam' and 'Shreshthi Nigam' were the unions of wealthy traders. The Kulik Nigam had its own seal which was used in commercial correspondence and the trade-goods.
- In the Gupta age, India maintained trade relations with Arabia. Horses were imported from Arabia and Iran.
- The Seals of Kulik have been excavated from the town Meeta near Allahabad.
- From Vaishali 274 Seals of Sarthwah Kulik Nigam have been excavated prove that it was a great institution of the Gupta age.
- Trade with China, Japan and Sumatra was carried from the port of Tamralipti.
- In Gupta age the land tax was known as 'Udrang'.

- Kadur and Charpal were the ports situated in Andhra Pradesh.
- Kaveripattanam and Tondai were the ports of Chola State.
- Kokai and Saliyur were the ports of Pandya State.
- Kottayam and Mujris were the ports of Malwa State.
- Sindhu, Orhoth, Kalyan and Mibor were other main ports for trade.
- Hiranya was the tax realized in cash. Bhutavat Pratyaya was the tax levied upon the imports from other countries.
- Haldand was the tax charged on the ploughed land.
- A definite portion of the produce from agricultural land was charged as the land tax by the State. It was called Bhag tax. Generally it was charged in kind.
- In the Gupta age, the land was donated only to the Brahmans.
- The land donated to Brahmans was called Brahmdeya.
- The tax free villages of the Brahmans were called Agrahara.
- In the Gupta age, the Gram Parishads (village councils) were autonomous and free from the State control.
- The uncultivated land was the property of the king.
- The women who remained unmarried throughout their life and passed their time in studies were called Brahmavadinis.
- Taxila, Varanasi and Ujjaini were prominent centres of education.
- In the Gupta society, intercaste marriages were performed.
- The slave system was practised in the Gupta age.
- The joint family system was in vogue in Gupta society.
- In the women though not as much respected as in Vedic period, yet enjoyed important position in the society of Gupta age.
- Sheelbhattarika was an educated and worthy woman of the Gupta age.
- Widow remarriages were performed in the Gupta age, But some works of the age speak against it. Chandra Gupta II married the widow of Ramgupta, his brother. Her name was Dhruva Swamini.
- Prostitutes, expert in music and dance, and perfect in sexology were called 'Ganikas'.
- The traders and commercial professionals had their 'Shrenis' in Gupta age. The Patkar, Tailik (oil traders), Pashan Kottak (stone cutters) were important Shrenis.
- The author of 'Swapnavasavaduttam' was an eminent prose writer.
- The author of Bhattikavya or Ravan Vadh, was Bhatti, an eminent poet of Gupta age.
- Bhartahari wrote 'Niti Shatak', Shringar Shatak and Vairagya Shatak which became very famous. Some scholars believe that Bhartahari is another name for Bhatti.
- 'Kuntleshwar Daityam' is a drama that testifies to the fact that Kalidas belonged to the Gupta age.
- 'Abhigyanashakuntalam' 'Meghdoot' 'Ritusanhar' are some of the major works of Kalidas.
- Kamsutra is a famous book on Sexology written by Vatsyayan.
- Vaibhashik and Sanghbhadra were the two Acharyas (teachers) of the Gupta age who wrote the literature of the Vaibhashik sect.

## **Medieval India : Important Facts Of Indian History**

Made in the times of Bhoj, an idol of 'Vakdevi' is at present preserved in the British Museum.

- The Jain temples of Dilwara were constructed during the period of Parmars.
- In Udaipur Prashasti, Munj is entitled 'Kavi Vrish' due to his literary attainments.
- Qutubuddin was purchased as a slave in his childhood by Qazi Fakhruddin Abdul Aziz Koofi.
- Qutubuddin did not issue coins or got 'Khutba' read in his name after accession to Delhi throne.
- Qutubuddin Aibak was buried at Lahore after his death.
- Iltutmish established the Shamsi dynasty.
- Iltutmish organized the group of his 40 slaves which is famous in history as Turkan-i-Chahalgami.
- Yalduz and Nasiruddin Qubacha were prominent rivals of Iltutmish.
- Iltutmish organized the 'Iqta army'.
- Iltutmish issued the coins—'Taka' of silver and 'Jeetal' of copper.
- Iltutmish was the first Sultan who issued pure Arabic coins.
- On 18th February, 1229, the representatives of the Caliph of Baghdad came to Delhi and they gave the Investiture of the Caliph to Iltutmish. The Caliph thus accepted him as the Sultan of Delhi. Now Delhi became a free state legitimately.
- According to Barni, Balban organized his Court on the Iranian pattern.
- Balban started the system of 'Sijda' and 'Paibos' during his reign.
- Balban's theory of kingship was based upon—Power, Prestige and Justice. His main objective was to maintain his control upon the administrative officials.
- The Mongol leader Chagiz Khan was known as the 'Curse of God'.
- The coronation of Jalaluddin Feroz Shah was done in 1290 at the Kilokhari Apurna Palace built by Kaikubad.
- At the time of his accession on the Delhi Sultanate, Alauddin Khalji assumed the title of Abul Mujaffar Sultan Alauddin and Deen Mohammad Shah Khalji.
- Jalaluddin Feroz Shah Khalji granted to Alauddin Khalji, the post of Amir-i-Tujuk.
- During Alauddin's time approximately 75 to 80 per cent of the peasant's produce was charged as tax.
- The main tasks of Diwan-i-Ariz were to recruit the soldiers, to disburse the salary, to well equip the army, to make arrangements for inspection and to proceed with the Commander-in-Chief in times of war.
- The main tasks of the Diwan-i-Insha was to draft royal orders and letters and to maintain the govt. records. He also conducted correspondence with the local officers.
- Alauddin Khalji introduced market reforms and fixed the prices of various items and goods.
- Munhiyan or detectives were appointed to keep a watch over the market and report the Sultan of the same.
- Barid-i-Mandi was an employee who informed the Sultan of the quality of the material sold in the market.
- 'Khams' was the war booty. The 4/5 of the loot was submitted to the royal treasury. Only 1/5 was distributed among the soldiers.
- Alauddin Khalji established a new department Diwan-i-Mustakharaj in order to check the corruption of Revenue department and to maintain control on the concerned officers.
- Qutubuddin Mubarak Shah rejected the rigid rules of Alauddin Khalji and pursued the policy of forgive and forget.
- Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq Ghazi was a Qaruna turk.
- Mohammad Tughlaq has been called, an unfortunate idealist
- Due to shortage of money in the treasury and to meet the expenses of Imperialist policy, Mohammad-bin-Tughlaq issued token currency.
- Mohammad-bin-Tughlaq planned invasion of Khurasan and Iraq but did not carry it out.
- Diwan-i-Kohi was the name of agriculture department organized by Mohammad-bin-Tughlaq.
- Elphinston was the first historian who believed that there was some signs of madness in Mohammad Tughlaq.
- Feroz Shah abolished 24 taxes disliked by people.
- Feroz Shah Tughlaq following dictum of Quran. levied only 4 taxes named Kharaj, Khums, Zazia and Zakat.
- Feroz Shah brought the two Asokan pillars from Khijrabad and Meerut to Delhi.

- During the period of Feroz Shah Tughlaq, the two books Fatwa-i-Jahandari and Tarikh-i-Feroz Shahi were written by Barni.
- Feroz Shah Tughlaq wrote his autobiography entitled Futuhat-i-Firoz Shahi.
- Feroz Shah Tughlaq established a new department of charity at Delhi known as Diwan-i-Khairat.
- Feroz Shah's book 'Dalayat-i-Feroz Shahi' was a work translated into Persian.
- Taimur invaded India in 1398.
- Sikandar Lodhi was the greatest of the Lodhi kings.
- In the Sultanate period, the Wazir was the Prime Minister of the Sultan.
- The department of the Wazir was known as the Diwan-i-Wizarat.
- In the Sultanate period, the Mushrif-i-Mumaliq maintained the account of the income and expenditure of the provinces.
- In the Sultanate period, the Chief Auditor of Accounts was called Mustafa-i-Mamaliq. His main work was to inspect the accounts prepared by Mushraf-i-Mamaliq.
- The Chief of military department was called, Ariz-i-Mamaliq who was not the Commander-in-Chief of the army.
- Dabir-i-Khas was the chairman of the correspondence department.
- Department of Diwan-i-Insha worked under Dabir-i-Khas who issued the royal Firmans (orders).
- The Treasurer was called Khajij and the Chief Justice was called Qazi-i-Mamaliq.
- The Chief of the Construction department was called Mir-i-Imarat.
- The Public Hall of the Sultan was called Durbar-i-Azam.
- The Sultan divided the empire into Iqtas or provinces.
- Iqta was divided into small shiks or districts.
- Jakat was the tax which covered the taxes of 'Sadpa' and 'Tith'.
- Qutubuddin Aibak had built the mosque known as Quwwattul-Islam near the Delhi Fort of Rai Pithora.
- The famous mosque at Ajmer known as Dhaj Din Ka Jhopra was constructed by Qutubuddin Aibak.
- Dhaj Din Ka Jhopra was earlier a Sanskrit school which was built by Vignaraj Bisaldeo.
- Alai Darwaza which is considered to be the most precious jewel of Islamic architecture was built by Alauddin Khalji.
- The new city of Siri and the Hazaar Situn palace in this city were built by Alauddin Khalji.
- In the period of Sikander Lodhi, his Wazir built the Moth mosque.
- The mosque of Attala is one of the best buildings of Sharqi style.
- The Jhajhanri mosque at Jaunpur was built by Ibrahim Sharqi in about 1430.
- The most important mosque at Jaunpur known as Jami mosque was built by Hussain Shah Sharqi.
- The mosque of Lal Darwaza at Jaunpur, was built in the middle of the 15th century.
- The Vijay Nagar kingdom was divided into 6 provinces. The chief of the province was known as Prantpati or Nayak.
- The province was divided into Nadu or districts.
- The provincial rulers were allowed to issue their coins.
- In the Vijay Nagar empire Brahmans were the most respected. The criminal Brahman was exempted from capital punishment.
- Women enjoyed honourable status. Many of them learnt the art of warfare. They were appointed as bodyguards.
- Krishnadeo Ray is designated as the Andhra Pitamah.
- Gold coins were used and they were called 'Barah'.
- Mixed metal coins were called Partab.
- Kabir who adopted the Gyanashrayi branch of the Nirgun sect, was the disciple of Ramanand.
- Namdeo was born in a small village of Satara district in 1220.
- Sabad refer to the composition related to Yog Sadhana.
- Guru Nanak was born in a small village Talwandi near Lahor.
- To reform a society ridden with ritualism and superstitious, he preached the Nirguna sect.



- The fifth Sikh Guru Arjundeo systematized the composition of Guru Nanak in ‘Guru Granth Sahib’.
- Malik Mohammad Jayasi earned great name and fame for his work Padmavat.
- The first invasion of Babar on India was conducted in 1519. During this invasion, he conquered Bajaur and Bhera. He went back from here. When he left these two places were lost to the Moghuls.
- Babar again invaded India in 1526, for the fifth time and he did not go back this time. He founded the Moghul empire in India.
- He defeated Ibrahim Lodhi by adopting his trusted war tactics of Tulughma.
- Babar used Artillery for the first time in the battle of Panipat.
- Babar defeated Rana Sanga of Mewar in the battle of Khanva in 1527. He scored a victory over Afghans in battle of ‘Ghaghara’ in 1529.
- Babar declared the Chanderi war as Jihad and he constructed a minarate of the heads of the dead Rajputs.
- Babar wrote his autobiography Tujuk-i-Babri in Turkish language.
- Mirza Haider Speaks about numerous qualities of Babar in his book—Tarikh-i-Rashidi.
- Babar’s daughter Gulbadan Begum enumerated the qualities of Babar in her book, Humayun Nama.
- Babar in his reign abolished the tax Tamagha.
- Babar wrote Risala-i-Validiya in Turkish poetry which was originally the work of Khwaja Obei-dullah.
- Babar learnt the use of artillery from Ustad Ali and Mustafa—his two Turkish officers.
- The name of Humayun’s mother was Maham Sultana.
- In 1544 Humayun took shelter with Shah Tahmasp, the ruler of Iran.
- In July 1555, Humayun again occupied the throne of Delhi.
- Humayun died on 27 January, 1556 as a result of a sudden fall from the stairs of the Din-Panah Library.
- Shershah was a great conqueror. He fought and won a grim battle against Maldeo of Marwar.
- Shershah introduced currency reform, extended transport system by building roads, most famous being present day G. T. Road and reformed revenue system by classifying agricultural land and introducing measurement of land.
- During the administration of Shershah, the Diwan-i-Vizarat looked after the tax system and economy and maintained the accounts of the income and expenditure of the State.
- The duty of Diwan-i-Ariz was to recruit the army, supply the food and look after education.
- The duty of Diwan-i-Rasalat was to conduct correspondence with other States and to maintain contact with them.
- The duty of the Diwan-i-Insha was to write emperor’s orders and records of accounts.
- The credit to solve the early difficulties of Akbar and to safeguard the Mughal empire goes to Bairam Khan.
- From 1556 to 1560 the reins of Mughal administration remained in the hands to Bairam Khan.
- At Tilwara, a war was fought between Bairam Khan and the army of Akbar. Bairam Khan was defeated.
- In early days of his rule Akbar was under the influence of Harem particularly his foster another Maham Anga. This is why some historian call the early years of Akbar as ‘Purda-rule’ or Petticoat government.
- When Maham Anga died, the so-called short Petticoat government of Akbar’s time ended.
- In 1562 Akbar abolished the slavery system.
- Akbar was the first muslim ruler who got maximum success in Rajasthan.
- Akbar’s second attack on Gujarat is considered to be not only the fastest invasion of Akbar’s time but the fastest in the history of the world of that age.
- In 1595 during Akbar’s time. Muzaffar Hussain was the Persian Governor of Qandahar.
- Akbar’s mother Hamida Bano Begum was a religious lady of a Sufi Shia family.
- Raja Birbal died fighting on the royal side in the Afghan-Baluchi rebellion during Akbar’s time.
- In 1571 was built an Ibadatkhana at Fatehpur Sikri where every Thursday, religious deliberation were held.
- Akbar was also impressed by Jainism. He invited the eminent Jain scholar Heer Vijay Suri from Tam Gachh in Gujarat to know about this religion.
- Impressed by Zorastrianism, the holy fire was kept burning in Akbar’s palace.
- Following the tradition of Hindu kings, Akbar started appearing for Darshan of his people from the Jharokha of his palace.

- In Akbar's time, the Prime Minister was known Wazir or Vakil-i-Mutlaq.
- In Akbar's time, the Finance Minister was called Wazir or Deewan.
- Mujaffar Khan was the first to be appointed as Wazir during Akbar's time.
- The assistants of Deewan, known as Sahib-i-Taujeeh looked after the accounts of the Army.
- Another assistant of Deewan, Deewan-i-Bayutoot, looked after the Industries of different kinds.
- The officer who managed the royal treasury was known as Mushrif-i-Khazana.
- Meer Saman in Akbar's time, managed the affairs of the royal palace, Haram and kitchen.
- In Akbar's time, Amal Guzar was the officer who collected the revenue from the districts.
- Bitikchi prepared the data about the quality of land and its produce. On the same basis, the Amal Guzar fixed the revenue. Bitikchi was the second important officer in the Revenue department.
- Amil collected the revenue from the Pargana.
- In Akbar's time, the clerk was called Karkun. His main task was to record the cultivable land in the Pargana and keep an account of the realized and unrealized revenue.
- Akabar introduced Mansabdari system with its ranks of Jat and Sawar based on decimal system.
- According to Blochman, Zat was the definite number of soldiers, the Mansabdars had to keep with them.
- According to Blochman the Sawar meant the definite number of cavalry.
- In Akbar's time, there were four kinds of land—Polaj, Chacher, Parauti and Banjar.
- In Akbar's time, Ibrahim Sarhindi translated the Sanskrit text of Atharva Ved in Persian.
- Mulla Shah Mohammad translated in Persian Raj Tarangini of Kalhan.
- Maulana Sherry translated Hari Vansh Puran in Persian.
- Abul Fazal translated Panch Tantra in Persian.
- Faizi translated the story of Nal Damayanti in Persian.
- The history of Islam was compiled in Tarikh-i-Alfi. It is a famous book.
- Akbar established a separate department of Painting, the chairman of this department was the famous painter Khwaja Abdus Samad.
- Abdussamad was an inhabitant of Persia who came to India from Shiraz. He was adorned with the title of Shirin Qalam for his attainments.
- Mohammad Hussain, the famous author of Akbar's Court was adorned with the title of Zari Qalam.
- Akbar built the Fort of Allahabad.
- The first building of Akbar's time was Humayun's tomb at Delhi built under the guidance of his step mother Haji Begum.
- The main mason who built Humayun's tomb belonged to Iran and his name was Mirza Meerak Ghyas.
- Akbar was born on Sunday. Hence Jahangir declared Sunday as a pious day.
- Nur Jahan was an educated lady. She was specially interested in music, painting and poetry. She composed poetry in Persian.
- The first Englishman to come to the Mughal Court was captain Hawkins.
- Abdur Rahim Khan-i-Khana was the guardian and tutor of Jahangir.
- The English ambassador Sir Thomas Roe came to India during Jahangir's time.
- The Jahangir's autobiography is Tujuk-i-Jahangiri.
- Shahjahan was born on 5 January, 1592 at Lahore. The name of his mother was Jagat Gosain.
- Two big rebellions broke out during Shahjahan's time. One was the revolt of the ruler of Bundelkhand named Jujhar Singh and the other was the revolt in south under the leadership of Khan-i-Jahan Lodhi.
- The title of Malika-i-Zamani was conferred upon Arjumand Bano Begum.
- The first coronation of Aurangzeb was performed on 31 July, 1658 and the second coronation took place on 15 June, 1659.
- Aurangzeb passed an order and prohibited the repairs of the temples by the Hindus.
- Aurangzeb appointed Subedars and Muhatsibs to check the spread of education and Hinduism.
- Aurangzeb again levied Zazia upon Hindus.
- Under Aurangzeb, the Hindu traders paid 5% tax on goods while the Muslim traders were free from this tax.
- Aurangzeb issued orders to prohibit the celebration of Holi, Diwali and Basant etc. in the Mughal Court.



- Gokul and Raja Ram were the leaders of Jat revolt against Aurangzeb. After the death of Rajaram, his brother's son named Churaman continued the revolt. The Jat rebellion went on till the death of Aurangzeb and the Jats succeeded in establishing a free Jat state of Bharatpur near Mathura.
- In 1681, Akbar, the son of Aurangzeb revolted against him.
- The 9th Guru of the Sikh order, Guru Tegh Bahadur openly protested against the religious policy of Aurangzeb. Aurangzeb called him to Delhi and asked him to accept Islam. When he refused, he was beheaded.
- Shivaji was the founder of Maratha State. He fought against the state of Deccan, as well as the mughal empire. He was a great administrator.
- Shivaji was succeeded by Sambhaji who was captured and put to death by Aurangzeb.
- Rajaram ruled only as the representative of Shahu—the son of Shambhaji who was imprisoned by Aurangzeb. Rajaram never occupied the Maratha throne.
- After the death of Raja Ram Maratha war of independence was carried on by his wife Tarabai.
- VascoGama came to India as the representative of the ruler of Portugal. He met Zamorin of Calicut and obtained trade facilities.
- In 1492 Pope Alexander VI granted the Portuguese the monopoly to trade with the east.
- From 1505 to 1509, Almeda remained in India as the first Portuguese Governor.
- Albukirk was the successor of Almeda in India. His objective was to establish a Portuguese colony in India by intermarrying with Indians.
- After coming to India, the Dutch established their trade centres at Surat, Bharaunch, Cambay, Ahmedabad, Chinsura, Kasim Bazar, Patna, Balasore, Nagapattanam, Kochin, Masulipattanam and Agra.
- The main aim of the Dutch was to trade with the Islands of south-east Asia. India was just a passage for them. This is why the Dutch faced no rivalry with other European companies.
- In 1608, under the leadership of Captain Hawkins, the English fleet reached India.
- In 1717 the Mughal King Farrukh Siyar granted a Firman to the British giving them the trade rights.
- In 1692, the Nawab of Bengal issued an order to the French Company and they established a commercial Factory at Chandranagar.

## **Modern India : Important Facts Of Indian History**

Muazzam occupied the Mughal throne as Bahadur Shah after his success in the war of succession.

- Muazzam, the son of Aurangzeb was called as the 'Shah Bekhabar'.
- The Mughal King Farrukh Siyar granted concession to the English men to trade in Bengal, Gujarat and Hyderabad.
- In 1759 Ali Mohar, the son of Alamgir sat upon the Mughal throne as Shah Alam II.
- After the death of Maratha ruler Shahu, the real power of the State came in the hands of Peshwas.
- Nawab Murshid Quli Khan of Bengal transferred his capital to Murshidabad from Dacca.
- Nawab Mir Qasim of Bengal transferred his capital to Moongher from Murshidabad.
- In the middle of the 18th century, the nominal ruler of Mysore was Chika Krishnaraj. The real power of the State lied with the two brothers—Nand Raj and Dev Raj.
- In 1761 Hyder Ali captured Nandraj and became the master of Mysore.
- In the first Anglo-Mysore war, Hyder Ali badly defeated the English army.
- In 1781 Hyder Ali conquered Arcot but in 1781 at Porto Novo Sir Eyerkoot defeated him.
- Ali Muhammad Khan established the State of Rohilkhand.
- The early capital of Rohilkhand was 'Awala' which later shifted to Rampur.
- Guru Har Gobind Singh constructed the Akaal Takht at Amritsar.
- Guru Gobind Singh converted the Sikhs into a warring and military group.
- In 1721, the two sects of Sikhism 'Bandai' and 'Tatkhalisa' merged in one sect 'Khalsa'. This sect became a headache for the Mughals.
- The Sikhs were organized in 12 unions or misls which grew in political significance. Later Ranjeet Singh conquered these misls and organized them into Punjab State.
- The ruler of the Afghanistan conferred the title of Raja upon Ranjeet Singh and appointed him the Subedar of Lahore.
- The treaty of Amritsar was signed between the English and Ranjeet Singh in 1809. As a result the English checked the expansion of Ranjeet Singh towards the region of Sutluj.
- According to the treaty of Amritsar, the English accepted Ranjeet Singh as an independent ruler.
- During first Anglo-Sikh war, the Governor-General of India was Lord Hardinge.
- Punjab was ruled by Maharaja Dalip Singh when the Lahore Treaty was signed in 1846 between the Sikhs and the English after the defeat of Sikhs in the first Anglo Sikh war.
- During Sirajudaulla's time, the English settlement at Calcutta became a resort for the enemies of Nawab and the traitors.
- On 4th June, 1756 Sirajudaulla invaded and captured the Qasim Bazar factory of English near Murshidabad.
- The Black hole tragedy as it is known in history, came to light through the letter of Holvell. Some of the historians consider it imaginery.
- In the contemporary historical works like Sher-a-Mutkherin and Royas-us-Salatin, there is no reference to the Black hole tragedy.
- On 9th February, 1757, the Ali Nagar Treaty was signed between the English and the Nawab.
- After the war of Plassey, when Sirajudaulla was running away from Murshidabad towards Patna he was captured and killed.
- On 28 June, 1757, the English declared Mir Jafar as the Nawab of Bengal.
- After victory in Plassey war, the English Company obtained concessions to trade in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.
- On 25 November, 1759, the Bedara war was fought between the English and the Dutch and the Dutch were defeated. The victory helped the English in consolidating their hold on Bengal.
- Mir Qasim planned friendship with Vansittart to become the Nawab of Bengal.
- Mir Qasim gave to East India Company, the districts of Vardhman, Midnapur and Chittgaon for the expenditure of the English army.
- In 1764 the joint army of Mir Qasim, Shujauddaulla and Shah Alam fought with the English—the war of Buxar, the English were victorious in this war.

- After the Buxar War, the Allahabad treaty was signed between English and the Mughal King Shah Alam in 1765 AD.
- According to Allahabad Treaty, the districts of Kara and Allahabad were taken away from the Nawab of Oudh and given to Mughal King. The East India Company agreed to pay to the king a pension of Rs. 26 lacs. In lieu the English got Diwani rights in Bengal.
- After the death of Mir Jafar, his son Nizamuddaula was enthroned as Nawab of Bengal.
- K. M. Panikkar holds that from 1765 to 1772, the rule of East India Company in Bengal was the 'rule of dacoits'.
- During Warren Hastings period, the Treasury was transferred by the East India Company to Calcutta from Murshidabad and Calcutta was made the capital.
- During the Governorship of Warren Hastings, in every district of subjugated India one Civil and one Criminal Court was opened.
- The cases upto to Rs. 500 were referred to the Civil Court and alone it, the appeal could be made to the Sadar Diwani Adalat.
- The District Criminal Court was put in charge of an Indian Officer.
- The Regulating Act of 1773 established a Supreme Court at Calcutta.
- The Permanent settlement introduced by Cornwallis brought changes in the land system. Most of the land came in the hands of commercial and rich classes of Calcutta.
- The Permanent settlement ensured the income of the Government. Besides the cooperation of the new Zamindars was obtained.
- In the Mahalwari system, land revenues was fixed either through the local Zamindars or their hereditary tax collectors or the Zamindars of the Mahal. Mahal was the collection of villages. The Mahalwari system was known in Punjab as the village system.
- The Raiyyatwari system was introduced during early 19th century in some regions of Madras and Bombay. The Govt. directly obtained a fixed amount from the peasants.
- In the Raiyyatwari system, the revenue rate was fixed 45% to 50% of the total produce separately.
- The Raiyyatwari system had many defects which the Govt. official accepted at the time of a parliamentary inspection for the renewal of the Company's Charter.
- In the Fifth and Sixth decades of 19 century, the English invested in large amount to control Indian economy.
- The English invested their capital on roads and communications, Railway, Post and Telegraph, Banks and tea gardens.
- In 1830 the Ahoms again rebelled against the English. This time, the English Company adopted a peaceful policy and granted north Assam and some other region to King Purandar Singh.
- Raja Teerath Singh of Nanakkalo rebelled against the English with the help of Garo, Khampati and Sinhopo tribes. Soon it took the shape of a mass-movement. In 1833, the English could crush it with superior military force.
- In 1825, the Assam Rifles rebelled against the English.
- In 1838, the Indian troops stationed at Sholapur rebelled due to non-payment of the full allowances.
- In 1850 the Gobind Garh regiment rebelled.
- On 1 January, 1857, the use of British made Enfield Rifles was started in India. In the cartridges of this Rifle, the fat of cows and pigs were used.
- In March 1857, the soldiers of Bairakpur Cantt refused to use the fat cartridges.
- On 2 May, 1857, the Oudh Regiment of Lucknow too refused to use these cartridges. As a result, the Oudh regiment was disbanded.
- To the soldiers of Meerut who had refused to use the fat cartridges, an English military officer—Carr Michael Smith issued the jail punishment of 5 years.
- On 10 May, 1857, a section of the infantry and cavalry of Meerut rebelled at about 5 P.M.
- The rebels marched to Delhi, captured the city and declared Bahadurshah the emperor of India. Bahadurshah assumed the leadership of revolt in Delhi.
- During this rebellion, Nana Saheb established his suzerainty over Kanpur and declared himself the Peshwa.

- In Bundelkhand Rani Lakshmi Bai of Jhansi assumed the leadership of the revolt.
- In Bihar, the zamindar of Jagdishpur, named Kunwar Singh led the revolt.
- On 28 May, 1857, the soldiers of Nasirabad Cantt in Rajasthan, rebelled.
- Kota and Adwa were the main centres of revolt in Rajasthan.
- The Central India, Tantya Tope led the revolt.
- In U.P. the important centres of revolution were Jhansi, Kanpur, Bareilly, Meerut, Lucknow, Aligarh, Mathura and Agra.
- The Bareilly rebellion was led by Batakhs Khan.
- The Commissioner of Oudh, Henry Laurence died of a blast on 4th July, 1857.
- While suppressing the revolt, the English officer Neil buried the dead Brahmans and burnt the dead Muslims.
- In March 1858, under the leadership of Kunwar Singh, the rebels captured Azamgarh.
- While marching towards Benaras from Azamgarh, there was an encounter between Kunwar Singh and the English officer Lord Mark in which Lord Mark had to run away to save his life.
- Kunwar Singh of Jagdishpur was the only leader to have died under the banner of freedom.
- On 14 December, 1857, the English army blasted Kashmiri Gate of Delhi.
- In November 1857 the rebels defeated the English General Windham near Kanpur.
- Vinayak Damodar Saverker was the first to name the rebellion of 1857 as the first war of Indian independence.
- According to Sir Seeley, the rebellion of 1857 was fully a national revolt conducted by selfish soldiers.
- Sir John Lawrence, P. E. Roberts and V. A. Smith have called it a Sepoy Mutiny.
- According to V. A. Smith, the rebellion of 1857 was purely a sepoy mutiny which fully reflected the indiscipline of Indian soldiers and the foolishness of English military officers.
- According to Sir James Outram, the revolt of 1857 was the result of a conspiracy of the Muslims who desired to fulfill their self-interest on the strength of the Hindus.
- Ashok Mehta in his book, 'The Great Revolt', has attempted to prove that it was a national revolt.
- Pattabhi Sita Ramaiyya takes it to be the first war of Indian independence.
- After crushing the revolt of 1857, they constituted an India Council and abolished the Board of Directors. There were 15 members in the India Council and a Secretary of State for India.
- After the revolt, Lord Canning announced the Declaration of the Queen at a Durbar held at Allahabad. He called it, 'the Magna Carta of Indian people'.
- In the Declaration of the Queen, the policy of expansion of the political limits came to an end.
- The rebels responsible for the murder of Englishmen were punished. All others were pardoned.
- The objective of Brahmo Samaj, Arya Samaj, Ramkrishna Mission and the Theosophical society etc. was to herald a renaissance in India.
- Brahmo Samaj was founded in Calcutta by Raja Ram Mohan Roy on 20 August, 1828.
- Raja Ram Mohan Roy always advocated the appointment of Indians on high govt. posts. He played a major role in the abolition of Sati system.
- After the death of Raja Ram Mohan Roy on 20 August, 1833, Devendara Nath Tagore assumed the leadership of the Brahmo Samaj.
- Aadi Brahmo Samaj was established by Devendra Nath Thakur.
- Bhartiya Brahmo Samaj was founded by Keshav Chandra Sen.
- The principles of Brahmo Samaj helped immensely in the birth and Spread Indian nationalism.
- Raja Ram Mohan Roy established Vedant College, English School and Hindu College at Calcutta.
- Raja Ram Mohan Roy was the advocate of English Education and he thought English to be the vehicle of progress.
- It was due to the effort of Raja Ram Mohan Roy, that the restriction upon the newspapers were lifted.
- In 1819, at Maharashtra, Prarthna Sabha was founded. It came to an end due to its limited scope.
- In 1867 Atma Ram Pandurang established Prarthna Samaj. M. G. Ranade, R. G. Bhandarkar and Narayan Chandrawarkar were the prominent members of this Samaj.
- Dayanand Saraswati left his house at the age of 21. As a Brahmachari Sadhu, he travelled to different places

in India.

- Dayanand Saraswati started the propagation of his religion from Agra.
- In 1874, he wrote his famous book Satyarth Prakash.
- On 10 April, 1875 he founded Arya Samaj at Bombay.
- Totapuri, a Vedantic sadhu taught Vedant Sadhna to Dayananda.
- Ramkrishna Paramhans was born in 1836 in a poor Brahman family of Hoogly district of Bengal.
- Swami Vivekanand was the most devoted disciple of Swami Ramkrishna Paramhans.
- Ramkrishna Paramhans did not establish any Ashram or sect.
- In 1893 in the All Religion Conference at Chicago Vivekanand impressed everyone, and started a Vedant Samaj there.
- In 1896 Vivekanand established Ramkrishna Mission.
- In the last years of the third decade of the 19th century, the young Bengal movement was led by an Englishman named Henry William Derozio.
- On 7 September, 1875 in New York, U.S.A. Madame H.P. Blavatsky (Russian) and Col. H. S. Alcott (American) founded the Theosophical Society.
- Mrs. Annie Besant, an Irish lady was a very active member of Theosophical Society in India.
- Due to the efforts of Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, in 1856, the Widow Remarriage Act was legislated.
- The slogan of 'Inkalab Zindabad' was given by Mohammad Iqbal.
- Sir Saiyyad Ahmad Khan founded the Anglo Oriental College at Aligarh in 1877 which later became known as Aligarh Muslim University.
- Haji Shariatullah was the initiator of Faryaz movement.
- In Maharashtra the Bharat Sewak Samaj was started by Gopal Krishna Gokhale.
- In 1922 Amrit Lal Viththal Das established the Bheel Sewa Mandal.
- Jyoti Ba Phule was the champion of widowremarriage in Maharashtra.
- In 1911 Narayan Maltar Joshi organised the Social Service League, a society to solve the social problems. He was assisted by some educated Indians.
- Avanindra Nath Thakur founded the society known as—The Indian Society of Oriental Art.
- In the 19th century, the famous Bengali author Bankim Chandra Chatterjee composed the song— Vande Matram.
- In 1875, Sisir Kumar Ghose founded the India League.
- The Indian Association founded by Surendra Nath Banerjee was replaced by the Indian League in 1876.
- The credit for founding the Indian National Congress in 1885 goes to an English officer, Allen Octavian Hume.
- The first Conference of the Indian National Congress was held at Gokuldas Tejpal Sanskrit College, Bombay under the chairmanship of W. C. Banerjee.
- Bal Gangadhar Tilak started Ganesh Mahotsav in 1893 and Shivaji Samaroh in 1895.
- Pandit Jugal Kishore published the first newspaper of India—Udant Martand. It was a paper which gave top priority to Indian interests.
- During Lord Curzon's time in 1905, Bengal was divided.
- In 1911, in Lord Hardinge's time, the partition of Bengal was cancelled.
- Lala Lajpat Rai and Ajeet Singh were exiled to Burma in 1907.
- In 1911 the capital of India was shifted to Delhi from Calcutta.
- On Nov. 1913, the Ghadar Party was founded at Sanfransisco city of America by the great revolutionary of Punjab named Lala Hardayal.
- Kashi Ram and Hardayal were the active members of the Ghadar Party.
- In 1906, Agha Khan founded the All India Muslim League.
- In 1916, a pact was signed between Muslim League and Congress which is known in history as the Lucknow Pact.
- In 1916 Bal Gangadhar Tilak established the Home Rule League of India.
- After Lucknow Pact, Congress and League presented the plan of political reforms based on separate electoral



regions. This pact led to an increase in communalism.

- In 1914 Annie Besant brought out a newspaper in English named 'New India'.
- Gandhiji established the Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad.
- On 30 March, 1919, Satyagraha Day was observed in whole of India. The Satyagraha was peaceful at all places except Punjab and Delhi.
- Dr. Satyapal and Dr. Saifuddin, the leaders of the Punjab Satyagraha were imprisoned. In protest, a meeting was organized at Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar. The people who assembled here were gunned down. This is known as 'Jallianwalla bagh Massacre' of April 1919.
- After the world war I, the Indian Muslims were excited due to the treatment meted out to Caliph by the British in Turkey. In 1919 they started the Khilafat movement under the leadership of Maulana Shaukat Ali and Muhammad Ali.
- The Congress joined the Muslims in Khilafat movement. On 31 August, 1919, the Khilafat Day was observed.
- Mahatma Gandhi launched the Non-cooperation Mass Movement in 1920-21. But violence broke out at Chauri Chaura then in Gorakhpur district which saddened Gandhiji. In February 1922 he announced the closure of the movement.
- In March 1922 Motilal Nehru and Deshbandhu Chitranjan Das established the Swaraj Party.
- In the elections of 1923 the Swaraj Party scored 40 seats out of 148.
- In 1927 the Bardoli Satyagraha was conducted by Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel.
- In 1928 under the chairmanship of Sir John Simon a Commission came to India to inspect the administrative work. The Indians boycotted it as no Indian was a member of the Commission. In March 1928 the Commission went back.
- In the 1929 Lahore Congress session held under the chairmanship of Jawaharlal Nehru, the meaning of Swaraj was declared as total independence.
- In 1930 Gandhiji broke the Salt laws by his Dandi March and he started the Civil Disobedience movement.
- In 1930, the Congress boycotted the first Round Table Conference.
- In 1931, after Gandhi-Irwin pact Gandhiji went to attend the second Round Table Conference along with the members of Muslim League.
- In the third Round table conference in 1932, Congress did not send any representative. Only 46 members went to participate under different categories.
- The meeting of the Executive of Congress held on 1 January, 1932 decided to again start the Civil Disobedience Movement due to the completely negative attitude of the Government.
- The British Prime Minister Ramsay Macdonald declared the communal award on 16 August, 1932.
- On 25 September, 1932, the Poona Pact was signed. Common agreement was made on two conditions for preparing the electoral regions. The representative of the Depressed classes was B.R. Ambedkar.
- In 1932 Gandhiji founded the Harijan Sewak Sangh for the uplift of the Harijans.
- On 8 May, 1933 Gandhiji declared the programme of 21 days fast for his self-purification.
- Gandhiji began 'Individual Satyagraha and Civil Disobedience on 1 August, 1933.
- The Government of India Act of 1935 had 312 articles and 19 enclosures.
- In 1935, the British provinces were 11 e.g., Madras, Bombay, Bengal, Bihar, Punjab, Orissa, Central Provinces, Assam, North West Frontier Provinces, United Provinces and Sindh.
- The Government of India Act of 1935, the subjects were divided into three departments—Federal, Provincial and Concurrent.
- This Act divided the British provinces of India in two categories. 11 were the provinces under the Governor and 5 provinces were under Lieutenant Commissioners.
- The Govt. of India Act, 1935, proposed Federal system and Provincial autonomy. The plan of Federal system could not be implemented. The elections for the Provincial legislative Councils were held in the January-February of 1937.
- The Congress won majority in 5 provinces—Madras, United Provinces, Central Provinces, Bihar and Orissa in the general election of 1937.

- In Punjab, the Unionist Party and Muslim League jointly formed the Government. This Government worked without any obstruction till 1947.
- In Bengal the Krishak Praja Party and the Muslim League jointly formed the Government. Its Cabinet worked till 14 August, 1947. Sikandar Hayaat Khan was the head of this Government.
- The Congress Cabinets worked from 1937 to 1939.
- In 1934, the members of Congress Executive, Acharya Narendra Dev, Jai Prakash and Achyut Patvardhan organized the Congress Socialist Party.
- In the Haripura session of the Congress (1938), S. C. Bose was unanimously elected the President.
- Subhash Chandra Bose organized a National Planning Committee.
- In 1939 Bose was reelected Congress President defeating Gandhi's candidate P. Sitaramayya.
- In April 1939, Subhash Chandra Bose resigned from the post of the President and started a militant party known as Forward Block.
- In 1939, Jawaharlal Nehru became the President of the Tribal Conference of Indian States.
- In 1933, a Muslim student named Choudhary Rahmat Ali studying in England proposed the formation of a separate Muslim State and called it Pakistan.
- On 24th March, 1940, in the Lahore Conference of the Muslim League, the Pakistan proposal was passed.
- Lord Linlithgo presented the August proposal before the Congress on 8 August, 1940 for getting cooperation during the war.
- The Individual Satyagraha was started from 17 October, 1940. Acharya Vinoba Bhave was the first Satyagrahi. Gandhiji postponed it on 17 December, 1940.
- It was restarted on 5 January, 1941. During this period more than 20 thousand people were arrested.
- Cripps Mission visited India in 1942. It was onemember Commission and only Sir Strafford Cripps was the member.
- The Congress and the League, both rejected the Cripps Proposals.
- The Quit India movement resolution was passed on 14 July, 1942 in the Executive of the Congress Session held at Wardha. It was reaffirmed on 8 August, 1942.
- The interim government of free India was organized on 21 October, 1943 by Subhash Chandra Bose in Singapore.
- 21 Indian political leaders were invited to attend a Conference at Simla in June 1945. It ended in failure.
- In December 1945, the General Elections were held in India. The Congress received the majority in 6 provinces.
- On 18 February, 1946, the non Commissioned officers and Naval soldiers of the Royal Indian Navy who were called Rattings, began a militant revolt at Bombay.
- In order to remove the Constitutional crisis the British Government sent the Cabinet Mission to India.
- It came on 29 March, 1946 to New Delhi and it declared its proposals.
- Muslim League observed the Direct Action Day on 16 August 1946.
- The Interim Government of India was organized under the leadership of Jawaharlal Nehru. The Cabinet took oath on 2nd September, 1946.
- The Constituent Assembly first met under the chairmanship of Dr. Rajendra Prasad on 6th December, 1946.
- Atlee declared on 20 February, 1947 that the English would leave India after transferring the power to responsible people before June 1948.
- The Mountbatten Plan of 3 June, 1947 was mainly the Plan of partition. It was agreed upon by the Executive of the Indian National Congress on 14-15 June in a meeting at Delhi.
- In July 1947, the Indian Independence Act was passed by the British Parliament.
- India became independent on 15 August, 1947.
- On 26 January, 1950, the state of Hyderabad merged in the Indian Federation.
- On 20 April 1954, the Panchsheel Pact was signed between India and China.
- On 20 October, 1962 China invaded upon India. Soon it occupied Assam Valley and Laddakh. On 21 November, 1962, China declared one sided ceasefire.





## **Indian History : Important Dates**

### **BC**

**3000-1500** Indus Valley Civilisation

**576** Birth of Gautam Buddha

**527** Birth of Mahavir

**327-326** Alexander's invasion of India. It opened a land route between India and Europe

**313** Accession of Chandragupta Maurya according to Jain traditions

**305** Defeat of Seleucus at the hands of Chandragupta Maurya

**273-232** Ashoka's reign

**261** Conquest of Kalinga

**145-101** Region of Elara, the Chola King of Sri Lanka

**58** Beginning of Vikrami era

### **AD**

**78** Beginning of Saka era

**120** Accession of Kanishka

**320** Commencement of Gupta era. the golden age of Hindu India

**380** Accession of Vikramaditya

**405-411** Visit of Chinese traveller Fa-hien

**415** Accession of Kumara Gupta I

**455** Accession of Skando Gupta

**606-647** Harshavardhan's reign

**712** First invasion in Sind by Arabs

**836** Accession of King Bhoja of Kannauj

**985** Accession of Rajaraja, the Chola ruler

**998** Accession of Sultan Mahmud

**1001** First invasion of India by Mahmud Ghazni who defeated Jaipal, ruler of Punjab

**1025** Destruction of Somnath Temple by Mahmud Ghazni

**1191** First Battle of Tarain

**1192** Second Battle of Tarain

**1206** Accession of Qutub-ud-din Aibak to the throne of Delhi

**1210** Death of Qutub-ud-din Aibak

**1221** Chaghai Khan invaded India (Mongol invasion)

**1236** Accession of Razia Sultan to the throne of Delhi

**1240** Razia Sultan dies

**1296** Accession of Ala-ud-din Khilji

**1316** Ala-ud-din Khilji dies

**1325** Accession of Muhammad-bin Tughlaq

**1327** Shifting of Capital from Delhi to Daulatabad to Deccan by the Tughlaqs

**1336** Foundation of Vijayanagar empire in the South

**1351** Accession of Feroze Shah

**1398** Invasion of India by Timur Lang

**1469** Birth of Gurunank

**1494** Accession of Babar in Farghana

**1497-98** First voyage of Vasco da Gama to India (discovery of sea route to India via the Cape of Good Hope)

**1526** First Battle of Panipat, Babar defeated Ibrahim Lodhi; Foundation of Mughal rule by Babar

**1527** Battle of Khajwara, Babar defeated Rana Sanga

**1530** Death of Babar and accession of Humayun  
**1539** Sher Shah Suri defeated Humayan and became India's emperor  
**1540** Battle of Kannauj  
**1555** Humayan recaptured the throne of Delhi  
**1556** Second Battle of Panipat  
**1565** Battle of Talikota  
**1576** Battle of Haldighati; Rana Pratap defeated by Akbar  
**1582** Din-e-Illahi founded by Akbar  
**1597** Death of Rana Pratap  
**1600** East India Company established  
**1605** Death of Akbar and accession of Jehangir  
**1606** Execution of Guru Arjun Dev  
**1611** Jehangir marries Nur jahan.  
**1616** Sir Thomas Roe visits Jehangir  
**1627** Birth of Shivaji and death of Jehangir  
**1628** Shahjahan becomes emperor of India  
**1631** Death of Mumtaj Mahal  
**1634** The British permitted to trade in india in Bengal  
**1659** Accession of Aurangzeb, Shahjahan imprisoned  
**1665** Shivaji imprisoned by Aurangzeb  
**1666** Death of Shahjahan  
**1675** Execution of Teg Bahadur,the ninth Guru of Sikhs  
**1680** Death of Shivaji  
**1707** Death of Aurangzeb  
**1708** Death of Guru Gobind Singh  
**1739** Nadir Shah invades India  
**1757** Battle of Plassey, establishment of Britishn political rule in India at the hands of Lord Clive.  
**1761** Third Battle of Panipat;Shah Alam II becomes India's emperor  
**1764** Battle of Buxar  
**1765** Clive appointed Company's Governor in India  
**1767-69** First Mysore war  
**1770** The great Bangal Famine  
**1780** Birth of Maharaja Ranjit Singh  
**1780-84** Second Mysore War  
**1784** Pitt's Omdoa Act  
**1790-92** Third Mysore War  
**1793** The Permanent Settlement of Bengal  
**1799** Fourth Mysore War- Death of Tipu Sultan  
**1802** Treaty of Bassein  
**1809** Treaty of Amritsar  
**1829** Practice of Sati Prohibited  
**1830** Raja-Ram Mohun Roy, founder of Brahmo Samaj,visits England.  
**1833** Death of Raja Ram Mohun Roy.  
**1839** Death of Maharaj Ranjit Singh  
**1839-42** First Afghan War  
**1845-46** First Anglo-Sikh War  
**1852** Second Anglo-Burmese War  
**1853** First Railway line opened between Bombay and Thane and a Telegraph line in Calcutta  
**1857** The sepoy Mutiny or First War of Independence  
**1861** Birth of Rabindranath Tagore

**1869** Birth of Mahatma Gandhi  
**1885** Foundation of Indian National Congress  
**1889** Birth of Jawaharlal Nehru  
**1897** Birth of Subhash Chandra Bose  
**1904** Tibet Expedition  
**1905** First partition of Bengal under Lord Curzon  
**1906** Foundation of Muslim League  
**1911** Delhi Darbar; King and Queen visit India; Delhi becomes the capital of India  
**1916** World War I begins  
**1916** Lucknow Pact signed by Muslim League and Congress  
**1918** World War I ends  
**1919** Montague-Chelmsford Reforms introduced; Jallianwala Bagh massacre at Amritsar  
**1920** Khilafat Movement launched  
**1927** Boycott of Simon Commission; broadcasting started in India  
**1928** Death of Lal Lajpat Rai ( Sher-e-Punjab)  
**1929** Lord Irwin's Pact, resolution of complete independence passed at Lahore Congress  
**1930** Civil Disobedience Movement launched; Dandi March by Mahatma Gandhi (April 6, 1930)  
**1931** Gandhi-Irwin Pact  
**1935** Government of India Act enacted  
**1937** Provincial Autonomy; Congress forms ministers  
**1939** World War II begins (September 1)  
**1941** Death of Rabindranath Tagore; escape of Subhash Chandra Bose from India  
**1942** Arrival of Cripps Mission in India; 'Quit India' movement launched (Aug. 8)  
**1943-44** Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose forms provincial Azad Hind Government and Indian National Army, Bengal famine  
**1945** Trial of Indian National Army at Red Fort; Shimla Conference World War II ends  
**1946** British Cabinet Mission visits India; Interim Government formed at the Centre,  
**1947** Division of India; India and Pakistan form separate independent dominions  
**1948** Mahatma Gandhi assassinated (Jan. 30); integration of princely states.  
**1949** Cease-fire in Kashmir; Indian Constitution signed and adopted (Nov. 26)  
**1950** India becomes a Sovereign Democratic Republic (Jan. 26) and Constitution of India comes into force  
**1951** First Five-year Plan. First Asian Games held in Delhi  
**1952** First General Elections of the Lok Sabha  
**1953** Conquest of Mt. Everest by Tenzing Norgay and Sir Edmund Hillary  
**1956** Second Five-Year Plan launched  
**1957** Second General Elections; decimal coinage introduced, Liberation of Goa.  
**1962** Third General Elections in India; Chinese attack on India (Dec 20)  
**1963** Nagaland becomes the 16th Indian State  
**1964** Death of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru  
**1965** Pakistan attacks India  
**1966** Tashkent Pact; Death of Lal Bahadur Shastri; Mrs. Indira Gandhi elected Prime Minister of India.  
**1967** Fourth General Elections; Dr Zakir Hussain elected the third president of India  
**1969** V. V. Giri elected President of India, Nationalisation of the leading banks by Presidential ordinance.  
**1970** Meghalaya designated as autonomous state.  
**1971** Himachal Pradesh becomes a State; Indo-Pak War, Bangladesh is born  
**1972** Shimla agreement; Death of C. Rajagopalachari  
**1973** Mysore State renamed Karnataka  
**1974** India explodes a nuclear device; Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed elected as fifth President Sikkim becomes an associate State of India

**1975** India launches 'Aryabhata'; Sikkim becomes 22nd State of the Indian Union; State of Emergency is declared

**1976** India and China establish diplomatic relations

**1977** Sixth General Elections; Janata Party gets majority in Lok Sabha; Neelam Sanjiva Reddy elected sixth President of India

**1979** Morarji Desai resigns as Prime Minister; Charan Singh becomes Prime Minister; Charan Singh resigns ( Aug 20 ) Sixth Lok Sabha dissolved

**1980** Seventh General Elections; Congress I comes to power; Mrs Indira Gandhi sworn in as Prime Minister; Sanjay Gandhi dies in an air crash, India Launches SLV-3 into space carrying Rohini Satellite

**1982** Longest bridge in Asia opened ( March 2 ); Acharya J.B. Kripalani dies ( March 19) INSAT.1A launched; Giani Zail Singh elected President of India (July 15) Over 500 persons killed in Gujarat Cyclone ( Nov.5); Acharua Vinobha dies (Nov 15) IX Asian Games inaugurated (Nov 19)

**1983** CHOGM held in New Delhi

**1984** Operation Blue Star in Punjab; Rakesh Sharma goes into space; Mrs. Indira Gandhi assassinated; Rajiv Gandhi becomes PM

**1985** Rajiv-Longowal accord signed; Sant H.S. Longowal killed elections in Punjab; Assam accord; VII Five-Year Plan launched 1986 Mizoram accord.

**1987** R.Venkataraman elected President; Shankar Dayal Sharma elected Vice-President of India, Bofors gun and Fairfax controversies

**1989** Ram Shilanyas Puja at Ayodhya; India's first IRBM ' Agni' successfully launched from Orissa (May 22); Trishul Missile test fired (June 5); Second successful launch of Prithvi (Sept 27); Rajiv Government loses poll and resigns (Nov.29); Jawahar Rozgar Yojna launched (Nov.29); National front leader V.P. Singh sworn in as seventh PM, New cabinet sworn in (Dec.2), Ninth Lok Sabha constituted

**1990** Last of IPKF return home (March 25); Indian Airlines A-320 Airbus Crash (Feb. 14); Janata Dal splits; BJP withdraws support to the Government; Advani takes out Rath Yatra and is arrested, Mandal Report implemented announced by V.P. Singh Violence in Ayodhya due to Ram Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid dispute

**1991** Gulf War breaks out (Jan. 17); Rajiv Gandhi assassinated (May 21); X Lok Sabha constituted (June 20); P. V. Narasimha Rao becomes Prime Minister

**1992** India establishes full diplomatic ties with Israel (Jan. 29); Bharat Ratna and Oscar winner Satyajit Ray dies (April 23); S.D.Sharma elected President (July 25); INS Shakti-first indigenously built submarine was launched on Feb. 7

**1993** Ordinance to acquire 67.33 acres in Ayodhya (Jan 7); Massive security falls in BJP rally; Wave of bombing leaves 300 dead in Bombay; Insat-2B becomes fully operational; Earthquake in Maharashtra

**1994** Government monopoly over civil aviation ends; Storm over GATT treaty; Plague outbreak; Sushmita Sen-Miss Universe; Aishwarya Rai-Miss World

**1995** Mayawati First Dalit Chief Minister of UP; BJP comes to power in Maharashtra and Gujarat, Janata Dal in Karnataka and Congress in Orissa; Indian National Congress (T) formed; President's Rule in UP after fall of Mayawati; INSAT 2C and IRSI-C launched

**1996** Hawala takes toll of several Union Ministers and opposition leaders; PSLV D3 launched on March 21 with IRSP-3 ushering new era in India space programme; Eleventh Lok Sabha Elections held on April 127-BJP emerges as the single largest party

**1997** On August 15, India celebrated its 50th year of Independence

**1998** Death of Mother Teresa; Atal Behari Vajpayee becomes Indian Prime Minister; India explodes its second nuclear device (Pokhran II)

**1999** India Airlines plane IC-814 hijacked by terrorists and taken to Kandahar, Afghanistan, on Dec 24, 1999. Three militants released by Indian govt. for the freedom of hostages kept as passengers. In June 1999, Flt. Lt. K. Nachiketa, the captured Indian pilot, released by Pakistan after eight days of captivity. 'Operation Vijay' launched by Indian Army to flush out Pakistani infiltrators inside LoC in the Kargil sector of J&K, India wins battle.

**2000** US President Bill Clinton visits India during March 2000. Three new states Chhattisgarh, Uttaranchal

and Jharkhand created. India's population crossed one billion mark.

**2001** 'Agra Summit' between India and Pakistan in July 2001; Worst natural calamity of India: Gujarat Earthquake in Jan 2001; 'Tehelka.Com' screened video tapes which opened the murky world of arms deal and its kickbacks to Indian Army officials, ministers and politicians in March 2001; VI th census of India (since Independence) concluded in March 2001. Enron bids farewell to Indian energy sector in August 2001; GSLV launched successfully in April 2001 and PSLC-C3 launch conducted in October 2001.

**2002** → 71-year old missile scientist, Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam, is elected President of India; One of the most harrific communal roits in recent history, the Godhra Incident, happens on Feb 27, 2002 in Gujarat; National Water Policy announced in April, which aims at integrating water resources development and management for optimal and sustainable utilisation.

**2003** → Formation of Strategic Forces Command (SFO) and the Nuclear Command Authority (NCA) by India; Air Marshal Teja Mohan Asthana named first commander in chief of the SFC; Advanced multi purpose satellite, INSAT-3A is successfully launched into space from Kourou of French Guyana; CBI forms an Economic Intelligence Wing to tackle white-collar crime in June; India's adnaced communication satellite INSAT-3E is launched by an European rocket from the spaceport of Kourou of French Guyana in December

**2004** NDA government ousted by the Congress and its allies in the General Election; Congress → President Ms Sonia Gandhi opts against becoming Prime Minister of India despite being in a strong position; Congress and its allies forms government at the centre under the Prime Ministership of Dr. Manmohan Singh.

# History Notes - 1

**Abdul Rahim Khan-i-Khanan:** He lived during the reign of Akbar. He translated Babur's Memoirs from Turkish to Persian.

**Abdussamad:** He was honoured with the award of "zariqalam" by Akbar.

**Ages, Chronological order of:** Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic, Chalcolithic

**Agrahara:** Tax-free villages granted to the learned Brahmanas in ancient India were known as Agrahara.

**Akot:** is a town, about 42 km from Akola, from where a stone idol of Lord Adinath, the first Jain Teerthankara, was found in 1993.

**Alien Powers in India, chronological sequence of:** Indo-Greeks, Scythians, Kushanas, Huns.

**Amarasimha:** was one of the nine gems in the court of the legendary Vikramaditya. His work *Amarkosha* occupies a dominant position in Sanskrit lexicography.

**Amoghavarsha-I:** was the long ruling Rashtrakuta king (A.D. 814-78). He represented the height of development of his dynasty.

**Asanga:** was a Buddhist philosopher. He was the originator of Buddhist Yogachara idealism.

**Ashvaghosha:** was the spiritual adviser of Kanishka (the Kushan emperor) who took a leading part in the Fourth Buddhist Council at Srinagar which was presided by Vasumitra. He was a renowned Mahayana Sanskrit scholar and author of Sariputra-prakarana and Buddha Charitam. He was the greatest literary figure at Kanishka's court.

**Atisa Dipankara:** was the most famous teacher of Vikramasila university founded in A.D. 810 by king Dharmapala of Pala dynasty.

**Battle of San Thomas:** This battle during the Carnatic Wars (1746-61) definitely proved for the first time the superiority of European arms and discipline over the traditional Indian methods of warfare.

**Battle of Waihand:** was fought between Mahmud Ghaznavi and Anandpala.

**Bhaskaravarman:** was the king of Kamarupa (Upper Assam). He was a contemporary of king Sasanka of Gauda and was his arch-enemy. Bhaskaravarman was the eastern ally of king Harsha.

**Bilhana:** was a Sanskrit historian and poet born in Kashmir. He left Kashmir about A.D. 1065 and became the court poet at Kalyana where he wrote an epic, Vikramadeva-charita to celebrate the reign of Vikramaditya-VI, the Chalukya king of Kalyana.

**Blue Water Policy:** The "Blue Water" policy is attributed to Don Francisco de Almeida, the first Viceroy of the Portuguese possessions in India. His "Blue Water" policy was to be powerful at the sea instead of building fortresses on Indian land.

**Boghaz Koi inscriptions:** are important in Indian history because inscriptions of the fourteenth century B.C. discovered here mention the names of Vedic gods and goddesses.

**Brahmagupta:** (598-660) of Ujjain, was a great mathematician of his time.

**Brahui:** is a language of Baluchistan. Linguistically, it is Dravidian.

**Busa Munda Revolt:** occurred in Bihar.

**Catching the butterflies and setting them free:** was the prominent feature of the foreign policy of Samudragupta.

**Chandernagore:** was a French possession before its merger with India.

**Charvaka:** is known as the greatest of the materialistic philosophers of ancient India.

**Chauth:** was a tax levied by Marathas—a contribution exacted by a military leader, which was justified by the exigencies of the situation.



**Coinage in Ancient India:** Coins in ancient India were made of metal—copper, silver, gold, or lead. Nishka and Satamana in the Vedic texts were taken to be names of coins, but they seem to be only prestige objects. Coins made of metal first appeared in the age of Gautama Buddha. The earliest were made largely of silver though a few copper coins also appear. Coins made of burnt clay belong to the Kushan period i.e., the first three Christian centuries.

**Dadu:** was the saint from Gujarat who preached non-sectarianism in medieval times. He founded the “Brahma-Sampardaaya” (the sect of Brahma).

**Dahar (or Dahir):** was the Brahmana king of Sind who was defeated by the Arab invasion in A.D. 712 by Mohammadbin-Kasim, nephew and son-inlaw of al-Hajjaj, governor of Irak. The Indian ruler (Dahar) offered a brave resistance in the battle near Raor but was defeated and killed.

**Darius:** was the Iranian ruler who penetrated into north-west India in 516 B.C. and annexed Punjab, west of Indus, and Sindh.

**Devapala:** (A.D. 830-850) was successor to Dharmapala, the famous Pala ruler. He established the third important Pala university of Somapura. He shifted his capital to Monghyr from where he maintained diplomatic relations with the Sailendra kings of Sumatra.

**Dhammapada:** was the first major work to say that salvation by means of devotion is open to humans regardless of birth, gender or station in life.

**Dharmachakra:** In the Gandhara art, it is the preaching mudra associated with the Buddha’s First Sermon at Sarnath.

**First Congress Split:** took place in 1907 at Surat.

**First metal used by man:** Copper.

**First Muslim invaders of India:** Arabs were the first Muslim invaders of India.

**First Sultan of Delhi:** was Qutb-ud-din who succeeded Muhammad Ghuri as sovereign of the new Indian conquests, and from 1206 may be reckoned as the first Sultan of Delhi.

**First to issue gold coins in India:** Mauryas.

**First to set up department of agriculture:** Muhammad-bin-Tughlaq was the first to set up a department of agriculture in India.

**First to start sea trade with India:** Portugal.

**Gautamiputra Satakarni:** was the great king of Satavahana dynasty.

**Gayatri mantra:** is contained in Rig Veda.

**Gopuram:** It has been the main feature of the South Indian temple architecture.

**Hasan Gangoo:** entitled Zafar Khan was founder of the Bahmani kingdom in Deccan.

**Ibadat Khana:** is a building at Fatehpur Sikri where Akbar held discussions on religious matters.

**Ibn-Batuta:** was a great scholar and traveller from South Africa who came to India in A.D. 1333 during the reign of Mohammad Tughlak and wrote about him.

**Iqta:** It was the land-grant system adopted by Ala-ud-din Khilji to grant his officers as reward for services rendered. Qutabuddin Aibak was assigned the first iqta in India by Mohd of Ghor.

**Jimutavahana:** was a famous jurist of medieval India (fifteenth century). His work Dayabhaga is a commentary on the srutis, specially on Manu.

**Kalachuri era:** counted from A.D. 248, it was mostly current in Central India. Their capital was Tripuri near Jabalpur. Kalachuris were the feudatories of the Pratiharas but soon acquired independence.

**Karshapana:** was the most commonly used coin in the Chola kingdom.

**Khiraj:** was the land tax imposed by Mohd-bin-Qasim after the Arabs’ occupation of Sind.

**Magazines started by National leaders:** Young India (M.K. Gandhi); Kesari (B.G. Tilak); New India (Annie

Besant); Bengali (S.N. Bannerji).

**Maski Rock edict:** This minor Rock-edict is the only edict in which Ashoka refers to himself as the king of Magadha.

**Moplah Rebellion:** broke out in Malabar (Kerala) in August 1921.

**Nastaliq:** was a Persian script used in medieval India.

**Nauroj festival in India:** Balban introduced the famous Persian festival of Nauroj in India.

**Nicolo Conti:** was the Italian foreign traveller who visited Vijayanagar about A.D. 1420 during the reign of Deva Raya-II.

**Palas:** who controlled most of Bengal and Bihar, was the third power involved in the three-sided conflict between Rashtrakutas and Pratiharas over the control of Kanauj. Pala dynasty was established by Gopala in the eighth century A.D. He attained renown from the fact that he was not hereditary king but was elected.

**Paragana:** During the rule of the so-called Slave dynasty in India, the empire was divided into provincial units called Paraganas placed under the charge of a military officer.

**Prakrit:** This language received royal patronage during the reign of Satavahanas.

**Rajsekhar:** was the Sanskrit poet who lived in the court of Mahendrapala-I.

**Ratika:** or rati is a weight between 1.5 to 3 Gunjas; between 5 to 8 grains of rice. It was the basic weight (measure) in ancient India.

**Ratnakara:** denoted the Arabiasn Sea in ancient Indian historical geography.

**Rishabha:** is supposed to be the mythical founder of Jainism.

**Sardeshmukhi:** was an additional levy of 10%, which Shivaji demanded on the basis of his claim as the hereditary Sardeshmukh (chief headman) of Maharashtra.

**Shahrugh:** It was silver coin of the Mughals. Sharada script: The Kashmiri language was originally written in Sharada script.

**Subuktigin:** was the first Turkish invader of India.

**Tanka:** was a silver coin of the Sultanate period of India.

**Tehqiq-i-Hind:** Alberuni's work on India. It contains observations on Indian civilization which are remarkably incisive and acute.

**Turushkadanda:** was a tax collected by the Gahadavalas during the early medieval India.

**Vagbhata:** is regarded as unrivalled in his knowledge of the basic principles of Ayurveda.

**Vatapi (or Badami):** now in the Bijapur district of Karnataka, where Pulakesin I, founder of the Chalukya dynasty in the middle of the sixth century, established himself as lord of Vatapi or Badami (capital of Chalukyas). It is well-known for Chalukyan sculpture found in the cave temples here.

**Vidushaka:** the constant companion and confidant of the hero in Sanskrit dramas, was nearly always a Brahmin.

**Vikramasila University:** was a great Tantrik University founded by the Pala king Dharmapala in A.D. 810. It was a hotbed of moral corruption, sorcery and idolatry. In A.D. 1198, the soldiers of Ikhtiar Khilji raised the structure to the ground and killed every monk in the University.

**Wood's Despatch of 1854:** It related to educational reforms. Lord Dalhousie took measures to carry out the scheme embodied in the famous despatch of Sir Charles Wood (July 1854) which embraced vernacular schools throughout the districts, and above all the glorious measures of grants-in-aid to all schools, without reference to caste or creed.

**Yakshagana:** was the south Indian dance tradition that appeared for the first time in the Vijayanagar period.

**Zabti System:** was introduced by Akbar for land revenue administration. In Zabti system, land was measured and assessment of land revenue was based upon it.



# History - Pre-historic and Vedic Civilisation

Ancient geographers referred to Himalayas, as also their less elevated offshoot—the Patkai, Lushai and Chittagong hills in the east and the Sulaiman and Kirthar ranges in the west— as Himavat.

Jambu-dvipa was considered to be the innermost of seven concentric island-continents into which the earth, as per Hindu cosmographers, was supposed to have been divided. The Indian sub-continent is said to part of Jambu-dvipa.

Sapta sindhavah is the name of the country of the Aryans in the Vedas.

In the ancient literature, there are references of India being divided into five divisions. In the centre of the Indo-Gangetic plains was the Madhya-desh, stretching from river Saraswati, which flowed past Thanesar and Pehowa (present-day Haryana) to Allahabad and Varanasi. The western part of this area was known as Brahmashirdesh, and the entire region was roughly equivalent to Aryavata as described in the grammar of Patanjali. To the north of Madhya-desh lay Uttarapatha and to its west Aparanta (Western India), to its south Dakshinapath or Deccan and to its east Purvadesh. The term Dakshinapath was in some ancient works restricted to the upper Deccan, north of river Krishna and far south was termed as Tamilakam or the Tamil country.

The Negritos were the first human inhabitants of India. Originally, they came from Africa through Arabia, Iran and Baluchistan. They have practically disappeared from the soil of India, except in Andaman Islands.

The Munda languages belong to the Austro-Asiatic family and are to be found at present in the eastern half of Central India, southern border of the Himalayas and Kashmir and the territory east of Nepal.

Prakrit was the single language of Indian sub-continent in third century B.C. Sanskrit came into being a few centuries later.

The term Paleolithic is derived from two Greek words meaning Old Stone. This name is applied to the earliest [people](#) as the only evidence of their existence is furnished by a number of rude stone implements.

Paleolithic men in India are also known as Quartzite men from the fact that majority of chipped stones found in different parts of India are made of hard [rock](#) called quartzite.

Paleolithic paintings have been found in caverns at Singanpur near Raigarh in Madhya Pradesh, as also in Kaimur ranges and some places in Mirzapur district.

With the advent of age of metals, in Northern India, copper replaced stone as ordinary material for tools and weapons. And, it took several centuries for iron to replace copper. In Southern India, however, the Iron Age immediately succeeded the Stone Age.

The Indus civilization existed in the same period as those of Egypt, Assyria and Babylonia. Mohenjodaro was discovered by R.D. Banerjee in 1922 and Harappa by R.B. Dayaram Sahni. Later on, the

work was taken over by Sir John Marshall, Director-General of Archeology.

The fertile surrounding region of Mohenjodaro is called Nakhlistan or the Garden of Sind.

It is presumed that Iron was not known to the Indus Valley civilisation as not a single scrap of iron has been found in the excavations at various sites.

[Developed](#) city-life, use of potter's wheel, kiln-burnt bricks, and vessels made of copper and bronze are some common and distinctive features of all the civilizations of the pre-historic period.

The use of mud mortar was common during Indus Valley civilisation. Gypsum and mud were used for plaster. In case of drains, gypsum and lime mortar was used.

The most important feature of houses of Mohenjodaro is the presence in them of one or more bathrooms, the floors of which were fully laid and connected by means of drainage channels with the main [street](#).

More than 500 seals have been discovered at various places inhabited by people of Indus Valley civilizations. These were made of terra-cota.

The seals and painted pottery of the Indus Valley show the figures of Pipal and Acacia trees. They were regarded as celestial plants and were supposed to be inhabited by divine spirits.

The people of Indus Valley also practiced the worship of Lings and Yoni symbols. The likelihood that both Shiva and Ling worship have been inherited by Hindus from the Indus Valley is reinforced by the prevalence of the bull (the vehicle of Shiva) or bull-like animals amongst the seal-symbols.

The pottery of Indus Valley was generally wheel-made and was painted red and black.

The Dravadians are thought to have come to India from eastern Mediterranean. At one time the Dravidian culture was spread throughout India.

Puja ceremonies [along](#) with flowers, leaves, fruits and water were performed by Dravadians.

Aryans were accustomed to Homa rites or sacrificial fire. Infact, the word puja has been derived from a Dravidian root called Puru, which means "to smear".

The Dravidian language is still spoken by the Brahui people of Baluchistan.

As per the theory propagated by late Bal Gangadhar Tilak the original [home](#) of Aryans was the Arctic region. However, the most widely accepted view is that the Aryans originated from Central Asia. The view which is accepted in West is that original home of Aryans was in South-East Europe.

In the early vedic period river Ravi was known as Parushni, river Jhelum as Vitasta, Chenab as Asikni, Beas as Vipas and Sutlej as Sutudri.

The word Veda comes from the root vid, to know. It means knowledge in general. It is specially applied to branch of literature which has been handed down by verbal transmission and is declared to be sacred knowledge

or Sruti.

Hindus consider the Vedas to be revealed books and give them the titles of Apaurusheya (not made by man) and nitya (Eternal).

According to Kautilya, “The three Vedas, Sama, Rig and Yajus constitute the triple Vedas. These together with Atharvaveda and the Itihasa Veda are known as the Vedas.” The ordinary definition of the Veda does not include Itihasa.

The Veda consists of four different classes of literary compositions: (a) the Mantra constitutes the oldest division of Vedic literature and is distributed in four Samhitas or collections known as the Rik, Sama, Yajus and the Atharva; (b) Brahmanas are the second class of Vedic works. They are mainly prose texts containing observations on sacrifice; (c) Aranyakas or forest texts are books of instruction to be given in the forest or writings meant for wood-dwelling hermits; (d) Lastly there are the Upnishads which are either imbedded in the Aranyakas or form their supplements. The above named literary works are classed as Sruti, or revelation, and constitute the Vedic literature proper.

The Brahmanas are the first specimens of praise in the world. They mark the transition from the Vedic to later Brahmanical social order.

The Vedangas are class of compositions that are regarded less authoritative than Sruti and are styled Smriti. The Vedangas are six in number: Siksha (phonetics), Kalpa (ritual), Vyakaran (grammar), Nirukt (etymology), Chhand (metrics) and Jyotish (astronomy).

In Vyakarana, Nirukt and Chhand we have the great work of Panini, Yask and Pingal.

The Nyaya Darsana was written by Gautam. According to it, Tarka or logic is the basis of all studies.

Knowledge can be acquired by four methods: Pratyaksha or intuition, Anumana or inference, Upma or comparison and sadba or verbal testimony.

The basis of the political and social organisation of the Rig Vedic people was patriarchal family. The successive higher units were styled gram, vis and jan.

The Purus and the Tritsus were two of the most famous Rig-Vedic clans. The names of their prominent rulers are recorded in Rik-Samhita.

In the Rig-Vedic period the foot soldiers were called Patti and warriors who fought from chariots were called Rathins.

The foundation of the political and social structure in the Rig-Vedic age was the family.

Visvavara, Ghosha and Apala were some leading women seers of Rig-Vedic times.

Agriculture was the principal occupation of the villagers in Rig-Vedic times.

The standard unit of value in Vedic period was a cow, but necklets of gold (nishka) also served as a means of

exchange.

Rik Samgita is a collection of lyrics from early vedic age which consists of hymns in praise of different gods. These are grouped into books termed as ashtakas or mandalas.

Rig Vedic people did not possess the art of writing and early literature of Aryans was known to be transmitted orally.

The early Vedic religion has been designated by the name of henotheism or kathenotheism (a belief in single gods, each standing out as the highest). Father Dyaus, the shining god of heaven, and mother Prithvi, the earth goddess, are among the oldest of the vedic deities.

The worship of Varuna, the encompassing sky, in the early Vedic age is one of the first roots of the later doctrine of Bhakti.

An important characteristic of Vedic mythology is the pre-dominance of the male element. Thus, Vedic civilisation presents a contrast to the prehistoric culture of Indus Valley, where the mother goddess is coequal with her male partner.

Sacrifices occupied a prominent place in Vedic rituals. These included offerings of milk, grain, ghee and juice of the Soma plant.

Before the close of the later Vedic period, the Aryans had thoroughly subdued the fertile plains of Yamuna, upper Ganga and the Gandak. The centre of the Aryan world was the areas stretching from Saraswati to the Gangetic plains and occupied by Kurus, the Panchals and some adjoining tribes. It was from this region that Brahmanical civilisation spread to the outer provinces, to the land of the Kosalas and the Kasis drained by the Sarayu and the Varnavati, to the swamps of east of Gandak colonised by the Videhas, and to the valley of Wardha occupied by the Vidarbhas.

The Aryan culture was taken to South India by Agastya.

Most important tribe of Rigvedic period was the Bharatas, after whom India has been named in the Constitution. The two most important rulers of Bharatas were Divodas and Sudas. Sudas is famous for his victory in the Battle of Ten Kings.

The most distinguished among the tribes of later Vedic period were the Kurus and Panchals, with their capitals at Asandivat and Kampila, respectively.

Balhika-Pratipiya, Parikshit and Janamejaya were powerful Kuru kings who figure prominently in early epic legends.

The reign of Panchals was home to several theologians and philosophers like king Pravahana-Jaivali and sages like Aruni and Svetaketu.



The fame of the land of the Panchals as centre of Brahmanical learning was eclipsed by the Videhas, whose king Janak won the title of Samrat. The Videhan monarchy fell shortly before the rise of Buddhism. Its overthrow was followed by the rise of the Vajjian Confederacy.

The kings of several regions gave themselves various titles. While the kings of middle country were called raja, the eastern kings were titled Samrat, the southern Bhoj, those in the west Svarat, and the rulers of the northern realms were called Virat.

The taxes collected from people in the later Vedic age were referred to as bali and sulka.

During late Vedic period, Vratyas and the Nishads were two important bodies of men outside the regular castes. The Vratyas were Aryans outside the pale of Brahminism. They appear to have had some special connection with the people of Magadha and the cult of Shiv. The Nishads were non-Aryan people who lived in their own villages and had their own rulers. They were probably identical with modern Bhils.

Shortly before the rise of Buddhism there were sixteen great nations that occupied the territory from Kabul valley to the banks of Godavari. These were: Anga (East Bihar), Magadha (South Bihar), Kasi (Benaras), Kosala (Oudh), Vriji (North Bihar), Malla (Gorakhpur district), Chedi (between Yamuna and Narmada), Vatsa (Allahabad region), Kuru (Thanesar, Delhi and Meerut districts), Panchal (Bareilly, Buduan and Farrukhabad districts), Matsya (Jaipur), Surasena (Mathura), Asmak (on the Godavari), Avanti (in Malwa), Gandhara (Peshawar and Rawalpindi districts) and Kamboj (South-west Kashmir and parts of Kafiristan).

The Vriji people were regarded by the Brahman law-givers as Vratyas or degraded Kshatriyas. The Vrijis had no monarch, but a popular assembly of elders who carried on the business of the State. This type of polity was known as Gana or republic. The Mallas also had a similar constitution.

The four kingdoms of later Vedic age who grew most powerful were: Avanti, Vatsa, Kosala and Magadha.

The kingdom of Avanti had its capital at Ujjain in modern Malwa.

One prominent ruler of Vatsa territory was Udayana, a scion of the Bharat race.

Kosala had its capital at Ayodhya and was ruled by a dynasty that claimed descent from illustrious Ishvaku, famed in Vedic and epic traditions.

The Kosalas extended their boundaries in several directions, including Nepalese Tarai, but their ambitious designs were frustrated by Magadha power.

Gargi and Maitreyi were two prominent intellectual women of late Vedic period.

Magadha and Anga were two kingdoms which the Aryans could not Brahmanise thoroughly and came to possess a mixed population. Kikatas were prominent non-Aryans who lived in Magadha. They were known for their wealth. There was a dislike for Magadha in the Rigveda and the same dislike was continued even during the period of later Vedic civilisation.

In the sixth and fifth century B.C. the throne of Magadha was occupied by a line of kings styled Saisunagas in

the Purans, an appellation derived from Sisunaga, the first king of the line in the Puranic list.

The Buddhist writers, however, put Sisunaga much lower in the list of Magadha kings and split the line into two distinct groups. To the earlier of the two groups they give the name Haryanka, whose most remarkable king was Srenika or Bimbisara.

The Ashtadhyayi of Panini is a book on Sanskrit grammar.

Khari, Patra, Vista, Satamana, Adhaka, Achita, Purusha and Dishta were different kinds of weights and measures used in later Vedic age.

Taxila or Takshashila was a great centre of learning in late Vedic period. It was famous for the teaching of medicine, law and military science.

India and Persia have very ancient relations. There are many common gods in the Rig Veda and the Zinda Avesta. The Iranian gods Mithra, Yima and Veretragna have their counterpart in the Indian Mitra, Yama and Indra Vritrahan.

The Boghaz-Koi inscriptions of about 1400 B.C. refer to certain contracts made between the King of the Hittites (in Persia) and the King of Mitani. In those inscriptions same gods are mentioned as the protectors of these contracts.

The continuance of strong influence of Persia upon India in the Vedic age is indicated by prevalence of the Kharoshti script, a variety of Aramaic, in the provinces near the Frontier, by the long continued use of the Persian title Satrap, by the form of the Ashoka inscriptions and by the architecture.

Sanskrit is a branch of a linguistic tree known as Indo-European. The trunk of the tree was a common tongue probably spoken in the region north-west of the Black Sea about 2500 B.C.

The Upanishads probe into the nature of universe and the human soul, and the relation of each to the other. They make no absolute statements of right and wrong, of creation, the gods or man; instead, they speculate, seeking always to find truth, as opposed to stating it, and offering a wide range of possibilities.

A rudimentary administrative system was prevalent during the Vedic period. The tribal kingdom (rashtra) contained tribes (jana), tribal units (vish) and villages (grama). The nucleus was the family (kula), with the eldest male member as its head (kulapa).

# History - Mughal Empire - 1

The second Battle of Panipat marked the real beginning of the Mughal Empire in India.

Bairam Khan remained the protector and guardian of Akbar during the initial reign of Akbar. Akbar's mother Hamida Banu Begum, and his foster mother Maham Anaga urged Akbar to get rid of the Regent, Bairam Khan. In 1560, Akbar openly expressed his desire to take the reins of the empire in his own hands and dismissed him. Bairam Khan submitted his resignation and desired to proceed to Mecca. On his way to Mecca, Bairam was stabbed to death by Lohani Afghan, whose father had been killed by Mughal troops under the command of Bairam Khan.

Akbar followed a policy of conquest for the expansion of his empire until the capture of Asirgarh in January 1601. He achieved the political unification of the whole of northern and central India by frequent annexations extending over 40 years.

Akbar realised the value of Rajput alliance in his task of building up an Empire in India and tried, as far as possible, to conciliate the Rajputs and secure and ensure their active cooperation in almost all activities. The Empire of Akbar can be said to be an outcome of the coordination of Mughal prowess and diplomacy and Rajput valour and service. Mewar, however, gave stiff resistance to Mughal forces. Rana Sanga, the ruler of Mewar, kept the torch of independence burning. However, after his death, his weak son, Uday Singh, could not hold against the Mughals and Akbar finally besieged the fort of Chittor in October 1567. But, the victory did not come his way easily. Rana Sanga's brave followers, Jaimnall and Patta, gave stiff resistance. The entire garrison, to the last man, died fighting. The Rajput women performed the rite of Jauhar.

Victory at Chittor resulted in other Rajput chiefs to submit to Akbar. But Mewar continued to defy. Uday Singh continued to retain his independence even after losing the capital. After his death, Mewar found a true leader in Rana Pratap.

The imperial invasion of territory of Rana Pratap took place in April 1576, under troops commanded by Man Singh, the ruler of Amber, and Asaf Khan. A furious battle was fought at the pass of Haldighati. Rana Pratap was defeated by the Mughal forces. His life was, however, saved by the selfless devotion of the chief of Jhala, who drew upon himself the attack of Mughal forces by declaring himself to be the Rana. Rana mounted his favourite horse Chetak and fled to the hills, from where he continued his resistance to the Mughal forces and also managed to recover some of the lost territory. Rana Pratap's son tried to continue the resistance after his father's death but was finally defeated in 1599 by Mughal forces led by Man Singh.

After annexing Ranthambhor and Kalinjar in 1569, the Mughals subjugated Gujarat. In 1572, Akbar marched in person against Gujarat and defeated all opposition.

Gujarat turned out to be one of the most profitable sources of income for the Mughal empire, chiefly through the re-organisation of its finances and revenues by Todar Mal.

In 1585, Kabul was formally annexed to the Delhi empire after the death of Mirza Muhammad Hakim, step-

brother of Akbar who governed Kabul as an independent ruler.

Bhagwan Das and Kasim Khan were deputed by Akbar to conquer Kashmir. They defeated its Sultan Yusuf Shah in 1586 and annexed Kashmir to the Empire.

By 1595, Akbar made himself undisputed ruler of an area extending from Hindukush to Brahmaputra, and from Himalayas to the Narmada.

With an ideal of an all-India Empire, Akbar sought to bring the Deccan Sultanates, Ahmadnagar, Bijapur, Golkunda and Khandesh under his hegemony. He also wanted to utilise his control over Deccan as means of pushing the Portuguese to the sea. Thus, his Deccan policy was purely imperialistic in origin and outlook and not influenced by religious considerations, as was the case with Shah Jehan and Aurangzeb.

Akbar sent a large army under Bairam Khan's son Abdur Rehman and his second son Prince Murad to annex Ahmadnagar. The city was besieged in 1595, but not before splendid courage and extraordinary resolution shown by Chand Bibi, a queen of Bijapur. Under a treaty with Chand Bibi, Berar was ceded to Akbar's forces and the boy king of Ahmadnagar agreed to the overlordship of Akbar. The kingdom could be annexed to the empire only during the reign of Shah Jehan.

In July 1599, Akbar himself marched to the south and captured Burhanpur, the capital of Khandesh and laid siege to the mighty fortress of Asirgarh. Akbar seduced the Khandesh officers by money to get the doors of the fort opened. This was the last conquest of Akbar.

In 1601, Akbar returned to Agra to deal with his rebellious son Salim.

On October 17, 1605 Akbar died following severe dysentery. His mausoleum is located at Sikandra.

Akbar observed the external forms of the Sunni faith until 1575, when his association with Shaikh Mubarak and his two sons, Faizi and Abul Fazal, produced change in his views.

Akbar got a building called Ibadat-Khana or the House of Worship constructed at Fatehpur Sikri, with a view to discussing philosophical and theological questions.

Hari Vijaya Suri, Vijaya Sen Suri and Bhanuchandra Upadhaya were prominent Jain teachers who were called by Akbar to attend the philosophical and theological discussions.

Akbar floated a new religion, called Din-i-Ilahi, based on his discussions with people of different religions.

Akbar abolished the pilgrim tax in the eighth year of his reign, and the jaziya in the ninth year.

A week after Akbar's death, Salim succeeded to the throne of Agra and assumed the title of Nur-ud-din Mohammed Jahangir Padshah (Emperor) Ghazi (Holy warrior).

Five months after his accession to the throne, Jahangir faced rebellion by his son Khusrav. The Prince and his troops were defeated by the Mughal army near Jalandhar and Khusrav was captured alongwith his principal

followers, Husain Beg and Abdul Aziz.

The fifth Sikh Guru, Arjan Dev was sentenced to death by Jahangir for helping Prince Khusrav with a sum of money. The execution of Guru Arjan Dev estranged the Sikhs, till then a peace-loving community, and turned them into foes of the Mughal Empire.

In May 1611, Jahangir married Noor Jahan, originally known as Mihir-ul-nisa. The emperor, who styled himself Nur-ud-din, conferred on his new wife the title of Noor Mahal (Light of the palace), which was soon changed to Noor Jahan (Light of the world). She was the daughter of Mirza Ghiyas Beg, a Persian adventurer.

Jahangir was known to have had several secret love affairs with the ladies of the court. One famous love of Jahangir was Anarkali, for whom he raised a beautiful marble tomb at Lahore.

The most distinguished triumph of Mughal imperialism during the reign of Jahangir was its victory over the Rajputs of Mewar.

In the Deccan, war dragged on throughout his reign against the kingdom of Ahmadnagar. The kingdom of Ahmadnagar was then served by its Abyssinian minister Malik Ambar, one of the greatest statesmen that Medieval India produced.

A partial success was gained by Mughals in 1616, when Prince Khurram captured Ahmadnagar and some other strongholds. For this victory Khurram was rewarded by his father with the title of Shah Jehan (King of the world).

The first serious disaster of the Mughal empire during the reign of Jahangir was loss of Kandhar. Deceiving the Mughal officers by gifts, Shah Abbas, one of the greatest rulers of Asia in his time, besieged Kandhar in 1621, and finally took it in June 1622.

Shah Jehan revolted against Jahangir with help of Abdur Rahim Khan-i-Khanan, an officer in the Mughal court. He was, however, defeated by Mughal forces led by Mahabat Khan, at Balochpur, near Delhi, in 1623. Shah Jehan was then chased from province to province and finally, in 1625, he reconciled with his father and retired to Nasik with his wife Noor Jahan, a niece of Mumtaz Mahal, and youngest son Murad. His other sons, Dara Shikoh and Aurangzeb, were sent to the imperial court, probably to serve as hostages to ensure his good behaviour.

The success of Mahtab Khan excited the jealousy of Noor Jahan and this hostility drove him to rebellion. Mahtab Khan took Jahangir as prisoner on the banks of Jhelum, while the emperor was on his way to Kabul. However, Jahangir managed to escape from prison and went to Rohtas where troops loyal to him had collected in a large force. Mahtab Khan ultimately made peace with Jahangir, but this triumph remained short-lived as Jahangir died on October 27, 1627. His body was buried in a beautiful tomb at Shah-dara, near Lahore, on the banks of Ravi.

Jahangir had a Chain of Justice, bearing sixty bells, fastened between the Shah Bhurj in the Agra fort and a post on the road, near the bank of Yamuna. The chain could be shaken by the humblest of his subjects to bring their grievances to his notice.

The Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri (Memoirs of Jahangir) is a brilliant proof of his literary attainments. Himself a painter, Jahangir was a patron of art and literature and a lover of nature.

Jahangir made no departure from his father's policy of admitting Hindus to the higher public service. Man Singh, Kalyan Singh, son of Todar Mal, and Vikramadit were three Hindu governors during his reign.

Jahangir also tried to control the practice of sati among Hindus. He passed orders that Hindu widows should not be compelled to become sati without his government's permission. He also tried to put a stop to female infanticide.

Jahangir was fond of the company of the Vaishnava leader Jadurup and held many discussions with him at Ujjain and Mathura, as a result of which he came to the conclusion that Hindu Vedanta and Muslim sufism were almost identical.

Jahangir was usually liberal and tolerant towards all religions, but at times sanctioned repressive measures against Muslim heretics. Shaikh Rahim of Lahore, who was a religious leader of a sect, was imprisoned in the fortress of Chunar. Qazi Nurullah was put to death on account of being a notable Shia writer. Shaikh Ahmad Sarhindi was imprisoned in the fortress of Gwalior, but was released later and sent back to Sarhind with gifts.

# History - Mughal Empire - 2

In 1577 Akbar undertook the reform of the currency and appointed Khwaja Abdus Samad Shirazi, a noted painter and calligraphist, to be the superintendent of the imperial mint at Delhi.

Besides Delhi, provincial mints were located at Lahore, Jaunpur, Ahmedabad, Patna and Tanda (in Bengal).

The silver coin issued during Akbar's reign was round in shape, like its modern successor, and was known as rupee. It weighed 172 grains.

Akbar also introduced a square rupee called Jalali, but it was not as popular as the round rupee.

The chief copper coin was the dam or paisa or fulus. It weighed 323.5 grains or almost 21 grams.

The ratio between the dam and the rupee was 40 to 1. The lowest copper coin was jital. 25 jitals made one paisa.

The most common gold coin was the Ilahi, which was equal to 10 rupees in value.

The biggest gold coin was the shahanshah. It weighed a little over 101 tolas and was used mostly in high value business transactions.

The coins bore calligraphic inscriptions containing name and titles of the emperor and the place and year of mintage. Very few coins had figures inscribed on them.

The judicial system of Mughals was based on Islamic law. As it was not possible in practice to enforce Islamic law on Hindus, a compromise was effected. While criminal cases continued to be decided according to the Islamic law in all cases, Hindu law was administered in deciding civil and religious disputes in which the parties were Hindus.

Although Akbar had rejected the Islamic theory of kingship, he made no fundamental change in the judicial system. One important change introduced by Akbar in the judicial system was to restrict the scope of Islamic law and to extend that of general or customary law of the land so as to make it include as many causes as possible.

Akbar did not apply Islamic law of capital punishment for apostasy from Islam or for propagating Hinduism or Christianity.

Akbar appointed Hindu judges to decide the causes of Hindus.

The king was the highest judge in the Mughal empire. The next judicial authority was the qazi, who was appointed by the emperor and worked during his pleasure.

Originally, the chief qazi's main qualifications used to be his knowledge of Islamic theology and his narrow sec-retarian views. Akbar, however, appointed to this post men of liberal religious outlook and broad sympathies towards all sections of the society.



Chief qazi was paid his salary in cash, as also was given an assignment of land entitled Madad-i-Mash or subsistence allowance.

Qazis were assisted by muftis, whose main duty was to interpret the law and issue a fatwa. Akbar's police administration was divided into three categories of urban, district and village police.

In all cities and towns kotwal headed the local police. His main duty was to see that the life of the city continued undisturbed. Besides, he had to examine weights and measures, keep an eye on the currency and enforce Akbar's social legislation.

Kotwal was personally held responsible for the value of property stolen in case he failed to discover the thief.

The kotwal was authorised to inflict punishment on offenders. However, he was not empowered to inflict capital punishment.

In the district the law and order was maintained by the faujdar. His main duties were the policing of the roads of the district and suppressing of disorders of all kinds.

The village headman was responsible for policing at the village level.

The imperial service during Akbar's reign was organized on bureaucratic principles, but was military in organization and outlook.

The most flourishing towns during Akbar's regime were Fatehpur Sikri, Agra, Delhi, Allahabad, Benaras, Lucknow, Lahore, Multan, Ujjain, Ahmedabad, Ajmer, Patna, Rajmahal and Dhaka.

The most important industry of the time was cultivation of cotton and manufacture of cotton cloth. The principal centres of cotton manufacture were Jaunpur, Benaras, Patna, Burhanpur, Lucknow, Khairabad and Akbarpur.

Agra, Fatehpur Sikri and Lahore were important centres of silk-weaving.

The principal outlets for foreign sea-borne trade during Akbar's regime were Cambay, Surat and Broach in Gujarat, Lahori Bandar in Sindh, Bassein, Chaul and Dabul (modern Bhabol) in the Ratnagiri district, Goa and Bhatkal, Calicut and Cochin in Malabar, and Negapatnam and Masulipatnam on the east coast, and Satgaon, Sripur, Chatgaon and Sonarghat in Bengal.

Two main land routes for exports were Lahore to Kabul and beyond, and from Multan to Kandhar and beyond.

Gold and silver were not allowed to be exported during the Akbar's regime. Only imports were allowed.

Among the popular indoor games during Akbar's reign were chaupar, phansa and pachisi. Akbar was particularly fond of chandalmandal and pachisi.

The Tajak, a well-known work of Astronomy, and the Tazuk-i-Baburi, or the memoirs of Babur, were translated.

ed into Persian during Akbar's reign.

The Mahabharat was rendered into Persian by Naqib Khan, Abdul Qadir Badayuni and Shaikh Sultan of Thanesar and was named Razm-nama, the book of wars.

The Lilawati, a Sanskrit treatise on Mathematics, was rendered into Persian by Faizi.

Among the notable works of literature during Akbar's regime were: Abul Fazal's Akbar-Nama and Ain-i-Akbari, Nizamud-Din Ahmad's Tabqat-i-Akbari, Gula-badan Begam's Humayun-Nama and Jauhar's Tazkirat-ul-Waqayat. Abbas Sarwani produced the Tohfa-i-Akbar Shahi alias Tarikh-i-Sher Shahi.

Akbar ordered the compilation of the history of 1000 years of Islam, and Naqib Khan Mullah Mohammad of Thatta and Jaffer Beg were commissioned to write out the work. The book, with an introduction by Abul Fazi, became known as the Tarikh-i-Alfi.

The reign of Akbar was golden age of Hindi poet-ry. The most notable luminaries of Hindi were Tulsi Das, Sur Das, Abdur Rahim Khan Khana, Ras Khan and Birbal.

Among the famous works of Tulsi Das were Ram-charitmanas and Vinaya Patrika.

Akbar created a separate department of painting and Khwaja Abdus Samad, one of the best painters of his court, was placed at its head.

Abdus Samad was a Persian who had come from Shiraz. He was given the title of Shirin-qalam or 'sweet pen'.

Daswanth, Basawan, Kesu, Lal, Mukand, Madhu, Jagan, Mahesh, Tara, Khem Karan, Sanwla, Haribansh and Ram were some well-known Hindu painters during Akbar's reign. They were experts in portrait painting.

According to Abul Fazal eight modes of calligra-phy were in vogue at Akbar's court, of which the eighth kind, named Nastaliq, was specially favoured by Akbar.

The most important calligraphist at Akbar's court was Mohammed Hussain Kashmiri, who was given the title of Zarin Qalam. Some of the other famous cal-ligraphists were Maulana Baqir, Mohammed Amin of Mashad, and Mir Hussein Ralanki.

The Ain-i-Akbari gives names of 36 first-rate musi-cians in Akbar's court. They were arranged in seven divisions. Each division was required to entertain Akbar for one fixed day in the week.

Akbar himself was a skilled musician and was an expert performer on Naqqara (kettle drum).

Tansen was the most notable musician of the age. He had been trained in a school established at Gwalior by Raja Man Singh Tomar.

Baba Ram Das was another famous musician of Akbar's court and was ranked next only to Tansen.

Sur Das, besides being a great poet, was also a musician of Akbar's court.

The gigantic forts at Agra, Lahore and Allahabad were built by Akbar.

The Agra fort resembles that of Gwalior. It has two main gateways, namely, the Delhi gate and the Amar Singh gate. Inside, about 500 buildings of red sandstone were built. Most of these were later pulled-down by Shahjehan.

The greatest architectural achievement of Akbar was his new capital at Fatehpur Sikri. Three sides of Fatehpur Sikri are covered by a wall and the fourth side by an artificial lake. The walls have nine gates, of which Buland Darwaza, built of marble and sandstone, is “one of the most perfect architectural achievements in the whole of India”.

Decorative carving was an important feature of Mughal architecture.

Mughals brought the concept of geometrically designed gardens to India. The chief characteristic of Mughal gardens was artificial irrigation in the form of channels, basins or tanks, and dwarf waterfalls.

The most important garden associated with Akbar is at Sikandra. In the centre of this garden stands his mausoleum.

Akbar was illiterate. But, he acquired knowledge of theology, literature, philosophy, history, etc. by having books read out to him every day.

Akbar was the first ruler of Medieval India to discard the Islamic basis of sovereignty and to lay down the principle that the king was the father of all his subjects, irrespective of caste, race or religion.

Akbar sought to strengthen the society by doing away with its evils. He tried to abolish Sati, child-marriage and old-age marriage. He did not allow circumcision before the age of 12, and allowed Muslim converts to go back to their original religion if they liked.

Akbar attempted to give his empire cultural unity by making Persian the court language and by providing in that language (either by translation or original composition) the best Hindu and Muslim thought, religious as well as secular.

Most of the fine arts, such as architecture, painting and music were nationalised and made the common property of the Hindus and Muslims alike.

Akbar gave his empire the political and administrative unity of the highest kind possible in that age, by giving all the provinces the same system of administration, the same set of officials, the same administrative methods, the same revenue system and the same coinage.

# History - Mughal Empire - 3

Jahangir was born to Maryam-uz-Zamani and Akbar on August 30, 1569. He was named Sultan Muham-mad Salim after Shaikh Salim Chishti of Fatehpur Sikri. Akbar, however, called him Shaikhu Baba.

Abdur Rahim Khan Khana, a profound scholar of Arabic, Turki, Persian, Sanskrit and Hindi, as also a soldier and diplomat of no mean order influenced Jahangir the most and moulded his thoughts. Most of Jahangir's education took place under Abdur Rahim.

At the age of 15, Jahangir was married to his cousin Manbai, daughter of Raja Bhagwan Dass of Amber. The ceremony was performed both according to Hindu and Muslim rites.

Jahangir gave Manbai the title of Shah Begum. She committed suicide in 1604 owing to her son Khusrav's unfilial conduct towards her husband.

Jagat Gosain or Jodhabai, daughter of Mota Raja Udai Singh was also among the most important of several wives of Jahangir.

Salim's loose morals and addiction to wine and other degrading pleasures enraged Akbar, who then tried to bring him round by threat of punishment. The estrangement led to open revolt by Salim. When Akbar set out of South to reconquer Khandesh, Salim made a dash for Agra in order to capture the huge treasure. He was, however, foiled in his attempt and subsequently went to Allahabad and set up his court there. He brought a part of Bihar under his control and set himself up as an independent king.

Akbar sent Khwaja Muhammad Sharif, a playmate and friend of Prince, to Allahabad on a mission of peace. But Salim won him over and appointed him chief minister.

The fact that Akbar's second son, Murad, was already dead and his third son, Daniyal, was visibly dying made Akbar weak and forced him to take forget and forgive Salim's follies. Salima Begum, Jahangir's step-mother, ultimately persuaded the prince to return to his path of duty.

After Akbar's death in 1605, Prince Salim acceded to the throne and assumed the title of Nuruddin Mohammad Jahangir Padshah Ghazi.

Immediately after coronation, Jahangir prohibited levy of many cesses, called tamgha, mir bahri, etc. Jahangir also abolished the punishment of cutting nose and ears.

Jahangir also prohibited the slaughter of animals on certain days in the year and two days in every week, that is, Thursday, which was his accession day, and Sunday, the day of Akbar's birth.

Jahangir caused a gold chain with bells to be hung between the Shah Burj in the Agra Fort and a post on the road near the bank of Yamuna, so as to enable suitors for jus-tice to ring the bell and approach the emperor without the mediation of any officer or servant.

Within a few months of Jahangir's accession his eldest son Khusrav revolted. Due to the past conduct of Khusrav, Jahangir had confined him to one corner of Agra fort. On April 6, 1606, on the pretence of a visit to Akbar's mausoleum at Sikandra, Khusrav proceeded rapidly towards Delhi. On his way he was joined by Husain Beg Badakhshi. Passing by Delhi, he made his way towards Lahore and on the way was joined by Abdur Rahman, the diwan of that province. At Taran Taran, the prince obtained benediction of Guru Arjan Dev, the fifth Guru of Sikhs.

On reaching Lahore, Khusrav found the fort put in a state of defence by the governor Dilawar Khan. Jahangir sent a contingent of troops under Shaikh Farid, as also pro-ceeded himself towards Lahore. The parties engaged in a fight on the plain of Baharawal. Khusrav was defeated and forced to flee towards Kabul. He was, however, captured by Jahangir's forces, along with Husain Beg and Abdur Rehman.

Jahangir imposed a fine of Rs two lakh on Guru Arjan Dev for bestowing benediction to Khusrav. The Guru, however, refused to pay and was consequently put to death. The Guru's death estranged Sikhs from the Mughals and led to their rebellion in the time of Aurangzeb.

The most fateful consequence of Khusrav's rebellion, followed by internal disturbances in the country, was the encouragement of the Shah of Persia to make a bid for the capture of fortress of Kandhar.

Kandhar was a bone of contention between Persia and India during the medieval age. Kandhar was a gateway and a natural base of operations for a Persian or Central Asian invader. Its commercial importance was no less great. It connected the principal trade routes from India to Central Asia and Europe. Babur, who was aware of Kandhar's importance, captured it in 1522.

After the death of Humayun, Kandhar passed out of Mughal control, but Akbar recovered it in 1594.

In 1611, Jahangir married a widow named Mehr-un-nisa, who was given the title of Nur Mahal, subsequently changed into Nur Jahan. She began exercising unbounded influence on the emperor and the administration of Mughal empire.

Nur Jahan was daughter of Ghiyas Beg, a Persian adventurer in Akbar's court, who was honoured with the title of Itimad-ud-daulah.

Within a few years of her marriage, Nur Jahan organized a party of her own and took the reins of the government in her hands. The party was known as Nur Jahan Junta and consisted of herself, her parents, her brothers and prince Khurram, who was the husband of her niece.

Nur Jahan exercised healthy influence on Jahangir. It was owing to her influence that Jahangir restrained himself from excessive drinking. Her influence over Jahangir was good and benefited the poor and the needy, as also the votaries of letters and art.

On political and administrative affairs the influence of Nur Jahan was negative. Her dealings with Prince Khurram and Prince Shahryar almost convulsed the empire in a civil war.

Akbar could not conquer the whole of Mewar due to stiff resistance from Rana Pratap. Infact, Rana Pratap was able to recover a considerable portion of his territory before his death in 1597. In 1605, Jahangir deputed his second son Parwez to reduce Rana Pratap's son Rana Amar Singh to submission. A tough battle was fought at the pass of Dewar but it proved indecisive.

Sagar, an uncle of Rana Amar Singh, who had deserted his nephew and lived as a pensioner at the Mughal court, accompanied Prince Parwez in the expedition to defeat Rana Amar Singh.

In 1608, Jahangir sent another force, this time under Mahabat Khan, to subdue Rana Amar Singh. He also failed in the mission.

In 1609, Abdulla Khan was appointed incharge. He defeated Prince Karan but was, in turn, beaten by Rajputs at Ranpura, the northernmost key-point of Mewar.

Jahangir appointed Raja Basu to defeat Rana Amar Singh but he too failed. Raja Basu was then replaced by Mirza Aziz Koka and in 1613 Jahangir personally moved to Ajmer to be near the scene of action and exert pressure. The supreme command of the Mughal army was now entrusted to Prince Khurram. In the constant struggle both sides lost heavily but the Rajputs suffered more due to famine. The resources of tiny Mewar exhausted and Amar Singh offered negotiations.

A treaty of peace was concluded between Rana Amar Singh and Jahangir in 1615. Rana recognized Jahangir as his suzerain. Jahangir restored all the territory to Rana, including Chittor, that had been seized during Akbar's reign. The Rana was not obliged to attend the imperial durbar and, unlike other Rajput chiefs, the Rana was not required to enter into a matrimonial alliance with the Mughal ruling family.

The treaty of 1615, for the first time, brought the end to the long-drawn struggle between Mewar and Delhi. The Rana of Mewar hereafter remained loyal to the Mughal throne, till Aurangzeb, by his thoughtless policy, drove Raj Singh in an open rebellion.

Jahangir adopted Akbar's policy of conquering the whole of India and bringing it under the rule of his dynasty.

In 1608, Jahangir directed the Khan Khana to conquer the remaining parts of South. But, he could make a little headway due to stiff resistance of Malik Ambar, the prime minister of Ahmadnagar. He used the guerilla warfare very effectively to defeat the Mughal army.

In 1616, Jahangir made Prince Khurram incharge of the southern command and himself moved to Mandu with all his court to be near the scene of warfare. Overawed by superior force, Malik Ambar at once opened for negotiations. A treaty was signed in 1617 under which Malik Ambar ceded all the territory of Bal-ghat, which he had recently seized from Mughals, as also surrendered the fort of Ahmadnagar. Jahangir was over-joyed with Khurram's success and conferred on him the high sounding title of Shahjehan.

The treaty of 1617 was brushed aside by Malik Ambar in 1620 when he formed a league with Bijapur and Golkunda and launched an attack on Mughal commander Khan Khana. Jahangir again deputed Shahjehan to take charge of the operation, who successfully forced Ambar to submission. The kingdoms of Ahmednagar, Bijapur and Golkunda were also made to pay a tribute to the emperor.

Jahangir lost Kandhar in 1622 to Persian rulers due to infighting among the Nur Jahan Junta, as also the estranged relations between Shah Jehan and Nur Jahan, and subsequent rebellion of Shah Jehan.

The three-year-old rebellion of Shah Jehan convulsed the empire with a civil war and caused a considerable loss of money and men. It came to an end in April 1626 after Shah Jahan, faced with nothing but destruction, decided to surrender and seek emperor's pardon.

The entire operation of dealing with Shah Jahan's rebellion was undertaken under Mahabat Khan, the greatest soldier and diplomat of the Mughal empire.

Difference between Nur Jahan and Mahabat Khan compelled Mahabat Khan to bring Jahangir under his control by a coup d'etat and thus deprive Nur Jahan of power in the State. He was helped in this by mostly Rajput soldiers.

Mahabat Khan remained the de facto ruler for 100 days, before Jahangir managed to overthrow him and take charge. Mahabat Khan was not a very capable administrator and this led to his fall.

After regaining his freedom from Mahabat Khan, Jahangir, whose health had completely broken down, set out for Kashmir in March 1627. But he could not regain health in Kashmir and decided to return to Lahore. During his return journey he was taken ill and died on November 7, 1627 near Bhimbar. He was buried at Shahdara near Lahore.



# History - Mughal Empire - 4

Mughals belonged to a branch of the Turks named after Chaghtai, the second son of Chingez Khan, the famous Mongol leader.

The foundation of the Mughal empire in India was laid by Babur, who was a Chaghtai Turk. He descended from his father's side from Timur and was connected on his mother's side with Chingez Khan.

In 1494, at the age of 11 years, Babur inherited the small principality of Farghana, now a province of Chinese Turkistan.

Babur was later deprived of his own patrimony of Farghana and had to spend his days as homeless wanderer for about a year. During this time, while staying with a village headman, he heard the story of Timur's exploits in India from a old lady and this inspired him to begin preparations to conquer India.

Babur occupied Kabul in 1504 and after this it took him 12 years to advance into the heart of India.

Daulat Khan, the most powerful noble of Punjab, who was discontented with Ibrahim Lodhi, invited Babur to invade India.

Babur occupied Lahore in 1524 but had to retreat to Kabul after Daulat Khan turned against him once he realised that Babur had no desire to give up his Indian conquests.

Babur attacked and occupied Punjab again in November 1525.

On April 21, 1526, Babur proceeded against Ibrahim Lodhi and met him at Panipat (First Battle of Panipat). Although Ibrahim Lodhi's troops were vastly superior, Babur managed a victory by superior strategy and use of artillery, and quickly occupied Delhi and Agra.

The first battle of Panipat marked the foundation of Mughal dominion in India.

Babur faced the toughest resistance to his expansion plans from the Rajput king Rana Sangha.

Rana Sangha, along with rulers of Marwar, Amber, Gwalior, Ajmer and Chanderi, as also Sultan Mahmood Lodi, whom Rana Sangha had acknowledged as ruler of Delhi, met Babur in a decisive contest at Kanhwa, a village near Agra, on March 16, 1527. The aim was to prevent the imposition of another foreign yoke on India. Babur triumphed over them by using similar tactics as in Panipat. Another major reason for defeat of Indian forces was non-joining of several Afghan chiefs.

While the battle of Panipat marked the defeat of titular Sultan of Delhi, the battle of Kanhwa resulted in defeat of the powerful Rajput confederacy.

Babur met the allied Afghans of Bihar and Bengal on the banks of Gogra, near Patna, and inflicted a crushing

defeat on them on May 6, 1529. This battle led to a considerable portion of northern India submitting to him.

Babur died at Agra, at the age of 47, on December 26, 1530. His body was first laid at Arambagh in Agra, but was later taken to Kabul, where it was buried in one of his favourite gardens.

During his four-year stay in India, Punjab, territory covered by United Provinces, and North Bihar were conquered by Babur. Rajput State of Mewar also submitted to him.

Babur's Memoirs were translated into Persian by Abdur Rahim Khan-i-Khananni at the time of Akbar in 1590.

Babur's son Humayun ascended the throne of India three days after Babur's death.

Humayun was devoid of wisdom and discretion, as well as strong determination and perseverance of his father. Thus, as a king he was a failure.

Six months after his accession, Humayun besieged the fortress of Kalinjar in Bundelkhand, gained a decisive victory over Afghans at Douhrua and drove out Sultan Mahmood Lodhi from Jaunpur, and even defeated Bahadur Shah of Gujarat. His victories, however, were short-lived due to weakness of his character.

Humayun's forces were defeated by Afghan ruler Sher Shah Suri at Chaunsa near Buxar in June 1539.

On May 17, 1540, the Mughals and the Afghans met again opposite Kannauj. Humayun's hopelessly demoralised army was defeated at the battle, commonly known as battle of Kannauj—also known as battle of the Ganges or Bilgram. Thus, the sovereignty of India once more passed to the Afghans. Humayun had to leave the life of a wanderer for 15 years.

The intense rivalry of Humayun's brothers—Kamran, Askari and Hindal—also made it difficult for Humayun to pool all his resources and fight back.

During his wanderings in deserts of Sindh in 1552, Humayun married Hamida Banu Begum, daughter of Sheikh Ali Amber Jaini, who had been a preceptor of Humayun's brother Hindal.

On November 23, 1542, Humayun was blessed with a son, Akbar, at Amarkot.

Amarkot's Hindu chief Rana Prasad promised Humayun help to conquer Thatta and Bhakker. Humayun, however, could not conquer Bhakker, nor could he secure asylum. He, thus, left India and threw himself on the generosity of Shah Tahmasp of Persia.

Shah of Persia helped Humayun with a force of 14,000 men on his promising to confirm to Shia creed, to have the Shah's name proclaimed in his Khutba and to cede Kandhar to him on his success.

With Persian help Humayun captured Kandhar and Kabul in 1545 but refused to cede Kandhar to Persia.

Civil war among the Suris, after the death of Sher Shah Suri, gave Humayun an excellent opportunity to reclaim the throne of Delhi. In February 1555, he captured Lahore, and after a few months captured Delhi and Agra

also.

On January 24, 1556, Humayun died following an accidental fall from the staircase of his library in Delhi.

On February 14, 1556, at the age of 13, Akbar was proclaimed as the successor of Humayun.

At the time when Akbar ascended to the throne, the country had ceased to enjoy the benefits of reforms of Sher Shah Suri, through the follies and quarrels of his successors, and was also effected by a terrible famine.

At the time when Humayun died, Portuguese were in possession of Goa and Diu. The Suris were still in occupation of the Sher Shah's dominion. From Agra to Malwa, and the confines of Jaunpur, owned the sovereignty of Adil Shah. Delhi to the smaller Rohtas on the road to Kabul was in hands of Shah Sikander. The borders of the hills to the boundaries of Gujarat belonged to Ibrahim Khan. Sind and Multan had become independent from the imperial control. Orissa, Malwa, Gujarat and the local chieftains of Gondwana had also become independent. South of the Vindhya lay the extensive Vijayanagar empire and the Muslim Sultanates of Khandesh, Berar, Bidar, Ahmadnagar and Golkunda expressed no interest in northern politics.

Hemu, general and minister of Adil Shah Suri opposed the Mughals soon after accession of Akbar.

Hemu occupied Agra and Delhi by defeating Tardi Beg, the Mughal governor of Delhi.

Hemu assumed the title of Raja Vikramjit or Vikramaditya after his victory in Delhi.

Akbar, along with his trusted guardian Bairam Khan, challenged Hemu at Panipat, resulting in the second battle of Panipat. A chance arrow hit in the eye resulted in Hemu falling unconscious, which led to his soldiers dispersing in confusion. The battle marked the real beginning of the Mughal rule in India and set it on the path of expansion.

Sikander Suri surrendered to Akbar in 1557 and was granted a fief in the eastern province. He was later expelled by Akbar and died as a fugitive.

Ibrahim Suri, after wandering from place to place, found asylum in Orissa, where he was killed about 10 years later. With his death there remained no one from the Suri clan to challenge Akbar's claim to sovereignty.

Sher Shah Suri effected the revival of Afghan power and established a glorious, though short, regime in India by ousting the newly established Mughal authority.

Originally, Sher Shah's name was Farid. His grandfather, Ibrahim, was an Afghan of Suri tribe and lived near Peshawar. His father's name was Hassan.

Farid was conferred the title of Sher Khan by Bahar Khan Lohani, independent ruler of Bihar, for having shown gallantry by killing a tiger single-handed.

Sher Shah joined the Babur's camp in April 1527 and remained in it till June 1528. In return for his services, Babur restored the jagir of Sasaram to him.

The war against allied troops of Bengal Sultan and the Lohanis of Surajgarh, on the banks of Kiul river was a turning-point in the career of Sher Shah. It made him the undisputed ruler of Bihar.

The victory in battle with the Mughal forces led by Humayun, at Chaunsa near Buxar, led to Sher Shah becoming de facto ruler of the territories ruled by the Mughals.

On May 17, 1540, in the Battle of Kannauj, Sher Shah's forces gave a crushing defeat to Humayun's forces and the sovereignty of India once again passed to the Afghans.

Sher Shah died on May 22, 1545 from an accidental explosion of gun-powder.

Sher Shah divided his empire into 47 units (sarkars), each of which was sub-divided into several paraganas.

The paragana had one Amin, one Shiqdar, one treasurer, one Hindi text writer and one Perisan writer to keep accounts.

Shiqdar-i-Shiqdaran and Munsif-i-Munsifan supervised the works of the paragana officers.

Sher Shah's land revenue reforms have unique importance in the administrative history of India. They served as the model for future agrarian systems.

Sher Shah settled the land revenue directly with the cultivators, the State demand being fixed at one-fourth or one-third of the average produce, payable in either kind or cash.

For actual collection of revenue the services of officers like Amins, Muqadams, Shiqdars, Qanungos and the Patwaris were taken.

The rights of tenants were recognised and the liabilities of each were clearly defined in the kabuliyat (deed of agreement) and the patta (title-deed).

Sher Shah connected the important places by a chain of excellent roads. The longest of these was the Grand Trunk Road, which still survives and extended from Sonargaon in East Bengal to the Indus. One road ran from Agra to Burhanpur, another from Agra to Jodhpur and a fourth from Lahore to Multan.

Sarais or rest-houses were set-up at different places along the roads. These also served the purpose of post-houses.

Sher Shah re-organised the army, borrowing largely the main principles of Ala-ud-din Khilji's military system.

After Sher Shah's death, his son Jalal Khan was proclaimed king under the title of Sultan Islam Shah, commonly known as Salim Shah.

Salim Shah was a strong and efficient ruler but he died young in November 1554 and disorder soon followed.



# History - Administration under Akbar

Like other Muslim monarchs, Akbar was, at least in theory, subordinate to the wishes of entire Muslim population (millat), which, in turn, was guided by the Muslim learned divines called the Ulema. Akbar sought to remove this check to his will and became the supreme authority over his Muslim subjects by promulgating the Infallibility Decree (Mahzar) in September 1579.

Akbar believed that the king must be absolutely tolerant to every creed and must establish universal peace in his dominion.

As per Abul Fazal's Akbarnama, Akbar appeared three times every day for State business. Early at sunrise he used to be ready at jhroka-i-darshan to show himself to his subjects. Here he was accessible to the common people and listened to their complaints. Next, he used to hold an open court which generally lasted for four and a half hours. People from both sexes were allowed to submit their petitions and the emperor used to decide the cases on the spot.

In the afternoon Akbar used to hold a full darbar in the Diwan-i-Aam. Here he attended to daily routine business, particularly relating to forces, workshops and to the appointment and promotion of mansabdars and granting of jagirs.

In the evening and often during night Akbar used to meet his ministers and advisers in the private audience hall called Diwan-i-Khas, where special business relating to foreign relations and internal administration was attended to.

Late in the night, Akbar used to discuss confidential matters related to war, foreign policy and internal administration in a room called Daulat Khana, which became known in the times of Jehangir as Gusal Khana, owing to its proximity to the royal bathroom.

The Central government under Akbar consisted of four departments, each presided over by a minister. These ministers were: Vakil (Prime Minister), Diwan or Wazir (Finance Minister), Mir Bakhshi (Pay-Master General), and Sadar-us-Sadur (Chief Sadar).

The Mughal ministers did not constitute a Cabinet in the modern sense of term. They were basically secretaries. The initiation of the policies was in the hands of the emperor.

The first finance minister of Akbar was Muzaffar Khan.

Todar Mal, Muzaffar Khan and Shah Mansur were the three most notable finance ministers of Akbar and all the three were skilled financiers and first-rate administrators.

The Diwan or finance minister was assisted by Diwan-i-Khalsa, who was incharge of Khalsa (crown or reserved) lands; Diwan-i-Jagirs, who was incharge of the lands that were given in lieu of service or as free grants (sayurghal); Sahib-i-Taujih, who was incharge of military accounts; and Diwan-i-Bayutut, whose duty

was to super-vice the accounts of various workshops attached to the court.

The Mir Bakhshi or Pay-Master General ranked next to the imperial Diwan. His office corresponded to the Diwan-i-Ariz of the Sultanate period.

The Mir Bakhshi was required to maintain a register in which names, ranks and salaries of mansabdars were recorded. All orders of appointment to mansabs of all ranks were passed through his office. One of his most important duties was to prepare a list of guards who had to keep watch around the royal palace.

The Chief Sadar or Sadar-us-Sadur discharged three-fold duties, namely, to act as the religious adviser to the emperor, to disburse the royal charity, and to function as the chief justice of the empire.

After Akbar reorganized his administration and rejected the Islamic theory of government, the Chief Sadar ceased to be the supreme religious adviser.

Akbar divided his empire into well-defined provinces or subas, and established uniform administration in them. In 1602, the provinces numbered 15.

The three provinces of South (Dakhin), namely, Khandesh, Berar and Ahmadnagar, were constituted into a single viceroyalty and were placed under Prince Daniyal.

In each suba, there was a governor, styled as Sipah Salar, a diwan, a bakhshi, a sadar, a qazi, a kotwal, a mir bahar and a waqaya navis.

The Sipah Salar (governor) was the head of the province. He was popularly called subahadar and some-times only 'suba'. He was appointed by the emperor and was responsible for the welfare of the people of his province, as also administer even-handed justice. He was also entrusted with the work of realizing tribute from the vassal States situated within the boundaries of his suba.

The provincial Diwan was the second most important officer of the suba. He was appointed on the recommendation of the Imperial Diwan.

There were two parallel and mutually independent authorities in every province. The Sipah Sadar was the head of the military, police and executive services, while the Diwan was the head of the civil and revenue branch—he reported directly to the Imperial Diwan and was not subordinate to the governor.

Generally one officer was appointed to discharge the functions of both the Sadar and the Qazi. Waqaya Navis was incharge of posting news-writers and spies in all important places in the province. Generally a separate officer was given this job, but at times the provincial Bakhshi was given the dual charge.

The Kotwal was incharge of internal defence, sani-tation and peace in the provincial capital. He was the supreme administrator of all thanas of the province.

The Mir Bahar was incharge of customs and boats and ferry taxes, and port duties in coastal towns.



Each province or suba was divided into a number of districts or Sarkars. Every district had a faujdar, an amalguzar, a qazi, a kotwal, a bitikchi and a khazandar.

The head of the district was faujdar. He had three principal duties to perform: First, to maintain peace and tranquility in his jurisdiction, to keep the roads free from robbers and thieves, and to enforce imperial regulations; Secondly, being a military officer, he was incharge of a small force or local militia. It was his duty to keep this army ready for service; Thirdly, he was required to assist the amalguzar (the collector) in the work of revenue collection.

Amalguzar or the revenue collector was the second most important official of a district. He was also required to punish robbers and other miscreants in order to protect the peasantry.

The Bitikchi was an important assistant of amal-guzar. His duty was to prepare necessary papers and records regarding the nature of land and its produce and it was on the basis of these records that the assessment was made by amalguzar.

Each sarkar (district) was divided into a number of parganas or mahals. The pargana was the lowest fiscal and administrative unit of administration.

There were four principal officers in every pargana. They were: the shiqdar, the amil, the fotadar and the karkun. Besides, as in the times of Sher Shah Suri, there were two other semi-official functionaries: the qanungo and the chaudhri.

The Shiqdar was the executive officer of the pargana and was responsible for its general administration.

The amil (sometimes called the Munsif) had to discharge the same duties in the pargana as the amalguzar in the sarkar.

The Fotadar was the treasurer of the pargana. The karkuns were the writers and kept land record.

The Qanungo was the head of the patwaris of the pargana and kept records of the crops, the revenue demands, actual payments, arrears, etc.

The Mughals had no navy, but as their eastern and western frontiers touched seas, they had large number of sea-ports in their possession. All sea-ports were treated as independent administrative units. For example, Surat was classed as a sarkar and comprised several parganas.

Every town of considerable importance had an independent kotwal appointed to take charge of municipal duties, besides police work. In small towns, these duties were looked after by amalguzar.

The uniforms of the kotwal and the city police were of red colour.

Akbar recognised the village panchayats as a legally established court of justice and upheld its decisions.

Akbar introduced the mansabdari system to organ-ise his armed forces more effectively.

All imperial officers, except the qazis and the sadars, were enrolled as members of the mansabdari system and were required to maintain some troops proportionate to their ranks. All the vassal chiefs, who were rulers of semi-independent States, were also enlisted as mansabdars.

Some mansabdars commanded troops that were recruited directly by the State and not by the mansabdar concerned. Such troops were called dakhilli or supplementary troops.

Ahadis were the gentlemen troopers who were recruited individually and were under the command of a separate mansabdar or officer, and had a diwan and a bakhshi of their own. Ahadis were considered very efficient and loyal troops and were paid high salaries.

An officer was incharge of each branch of the army and was known as Mir Atish.

Many elephants were trained to catch enemy soldiers and dash them against the ground. Such elephants carried two soldiers and two guns called gajals.

Akbar's army consisted of officers and troops of several nationalities, over two-thirds of whom were foreigners. Thus, it was not a national army, and was not bound by common interests and common sentiment of love for the country.

The fiscal sources of Mughal empire under Akbar were divided into two main divisions—central and local.

The central revenue was derived from Commerce, Mint, Presents, Inheritance, Salt, Customs and Land. Of these the land revenue was the most lucrative and important.

Akbar abolished the religious taxes charged from Hindus, such as the pilgrims' tax and the jaziya. Zakat, which was of two kinds, namely, first a religious tax from the Muslims only, and second, on cattle and some other articles, lapsed gradually.

Akbar undertook a series of experiments to improve the revenue collection and management. The first of the experiments was undertaken in 1563, when Akbar appointed Aitmad Khan to look after the affairs of the Khalisa lands which comprised the provinces of Agra, Delhi and a part of Lahore.

# History - Magadhan Ascendancy and beyond

Magadha kingdom's most remarkable king was Srenika or Bimbisara, who was anointed king by his father at the young age of 15.

The capital of Bimbisara's kingdom was Girivraja. It was girded with stone walls which are among the oldest extant stone structures in India.

The most notable achievement of Bimbisara was the annexation of neighbouring kingdom of Anga or East Bihar. He also entered into matrimonial alliances with ruling families of Kosala and Vaishali. The Vaishali marriage paved the way for expansion of Magadha northward to the borders of Nepal.

Gautama Buddha and Vardhaman Mahavira preached their doctrines during the reign of Bimbisara.

The modern town of Rajgir in the Patna district was built by Bimbisara. He had named it Rajagriha or the king's house.

Bimbisara was succeeded by his son Ajatshatru. Tradition affirms that Bimbisara was murdered by Ajatshatru.

To repel the attacks of the Vrijis of Vaishali, Ajatshatru fortified the village of Pataligrama, which stood at the confluence of Ganga and Son rivers. This fortress, within a generation, developed into the stately city of Pataliputra (modern day Patna).

According to the Puranas, the immediate successor of Ajatshatru was Darsaka, after whom came his son Udayi.

The name of Darsaka also occurs in a play named Svapna-Vasavadatta, attributed to Bhasa, which represents him as a brother-in-law and contemporary of Udayana, king of Kausambi. However, Jain and Buddhist writers assert that Udayi was son of Ajatshatru.

Bimbisara's dynastic lineage ended with the Nanda dynasty taking over the reigns of Magadha. The first king of Nanda dynasty was Mahapadma or Mahapamapati Nanda. He was succeeded by his eight sons, of whom the last was named Dhana-Nanda.

Dhana-Nanda was overthrown by Chandragupta Maurya, the founder of a new and more illustrious dynasty.

Among the State functionaries, the Purohit was of special importance in Kasi-Kosala, as we learn from Ramayan and several Jatakas. In Kuru-Panchal and Matsya countries it was the Senapati who held the special place.

The armies of the period usually consisted of infantry, cavalry, chariots and elephants. While rulers of deltaic regions were known to maintain small naval fleets, a big naval department came into being only during the reign of Chandragupta Maurya.

The Indian infantry usually carried long bows and iron-tipped arrows made of cane. They used to wear cotton garments. The chariots of the cavalry were drawn by horses or wild asses and carried six soldiers apiece—two bowmen, two shield bearers and two charioteers.

Greek writers bear testimony to the fact that in the art of war Indians were far superior to other peoples of Asia. Their failure against foreign invaders was often due to inferiority in cavalry. Indian commanders pinned their faith more in elephants than horses.

The oldest source of revenues was the bali. Bhaga, the king's share of reaped corn, became the most important source of State revenue in course of time. Among the most important revenue officials was the Grama-bhojaka or village head-man.

The early Buddhist texts refer to six big cities that flourished during the days of the Buddha. These were: Champa (near Bhagalpur), Rajagriha (in Patna district), Sravasti (Saheth-Maheth), Saketa (Oudh), Kausambi (near Allahabad) and Benaras (Varanasi).

The usual recreations of women during the Magadhan era were singing, dancing and music. Little princesses used to play with dolls called panchalikas.

The chief pastimes of knights were gambling, hunting, listening to tales of war and tournaments in amphitheatres. Buddhist texts refer to acrobatic feats, combats of animals and a kind of primitive chess play.

The principal seaports of the period were: Bhrigukachcha (Broach), Surparaka (Sopara, north of Mumbai), and Tamralipti (Tamluk in West Bengal).

The chief articles of trade during the Magadhan era were: silk, muslin, embroidery, ivory, jewellery and gold. The standard unit of value was the copper Karshapana, weighing a little more than 146 grains. Silver coins, called Purana or Dharana, were also in circulation. The weight of a silver coin was a little more than 58 grains, which is one-tenth of that of the Nishka known to the Vedic texts.

The first undoubted historical reference to image-worship by an Aryan tribe occurs in passage of Curtis, who states that an image of Herakles was carried in front of Paurava army as it advanced against Alexander.

The early Magadhan period saw development of variant languages from Sanskrit. In the towns and the villages a popular form of Sanskrit, Prakrit, was spoken. This had local variations; the chief western variety was called Shauraseni and the eastern variety Magadhi. Pali was another local language. The Buddha, wishing to reach wider audience, taught in Magadhi.

### **Persian and Macedonian Invasions**

Cyrus, the founder of the Achaemenian empire of Persia, destroyed the famous city of Kapisa near the junction of the Ghorband and Panjshir rivers northeast of Kabul.

The successor of Cyrus, Darius sent a naval expedition to the Indus under the command of Sky-lax. This expedition paved the way for the annexation of the Indus valley as far as the deserts of Rajputana. The area

became the most populous satrapy of the Persian empire and paid a tribute proportionately larger than all the rest—360 Eubic talents of gold dust, equivalent to more than a million sterling.

Once the Persian hold over Indian possessions became weak, the old territory of Gandhara was divided into two parts. To the west of Indus river lay the kingdom of Pushkalavati in the modern district of Peshawar; to the east was Takshasila in present district of Rawalpindi. Tradition affirms that Mahabharata was first recited in Takshasila.

In 331 B.C., Alexander inflicted heavy blows on the king of Persia and occupied his realm. In 327 B.C. Alexander crossed the Hindukush and resolved to recover the Indian satrapies that had once been under his Persian predecessors.

To secure his communications, Alexander garrisoned a number of strongholds near modern Kabul and passed the winter of 327-326 B.C. in warfare with fierce tribes of Kunar and Swat valleys.

Alexander finally crossed Indus river in 326 B.C. using a bridge of boats. Ambhi, the king of Taxila gave him valuable help in this. Alexander's march faced a major hurdle when it reached the banks of Hydaspes (modern Jhelum) river, near the town of Jhelum. Here he faced stiff resistance from Paurava king (Porus).

After crossing the Akesines (Chenab) and the Hydraotes (Ravi), Alexander stormed Sangala, the stronghold of the Kathaioi, and moved on to the Hyphasis (Beas). He wished to press forward to the Ganga valley, but his war-worn troops refused. Alexander erected 12 towering altars to mark the utmost limit of his march, and then retraced his steps to Jhelum.

During the return journey, Alexander received a dangerous wound while storming a citadel of the powerful tribe of the Malawas. He returned to Babylon after a long and treacherous journey and died soon after in 323 B.C.

The Persian conquest unveiled India for the first time to the Western world and established contact between the people of both regions.

The introduction of new scripts—Aramaic, Kharoshti and the alphabet style Yavanani by Panini— can be traced to Greek source.

The Macedonian garrisons were swept away by Chandragupta Maurya. However, these were not wiped out completely. Colonies like Yavana continued to serve the king of Magadha just as they served the Macedonians, and carved out an independent kingdom only after the sun set of Magadha.

One positive outcome of Alexander's invasion was that Greeks of later ages got to learn lessons in philosophy and religion from Indian Buddhists and Bhagavatas and Indians learned use of coins, honoured Greek astronomers and learned to appreciate Hellenistic art.

One of the most remarkable things in the foreign policy of Alexander was his encouragement of inter-racial marriages. He was the first ruler known to history who contemplated the brotherhood of man and the unity of mankind. The White Kafirs of Kafiristan, classed in Ashoka's edicts as definitely Greeks, are said to be

descended from Alexander's men. Of the ruling Frontier families, eight claim direct lineage from the son born to Alexander by Cleophis queen of the Assakenoi.

# History - Maurya Empire

Chandragupta Maurya was the founder of the empire. His family is identified by some with the tribe of Moriya mentioned by Greeks. According to one tradition, the designation is derived from Mura, the mother or grandmother of Chandragupta, who was wife of a Nanda king.

Buddhist writers represent Chandragupta as member of Kshatriya caste, belonging to the ruling clan of little republic of Pippalivana, lying probably between Rummidei in the Nepalese Tarai and Kasai in the Gorakhpur district.

Chandragupta is referred to as Sandrocottos in the Greek accounts.

Chandragupta was the protege of the Brahman, Kautilya or Chanakya, who was his guide and mentor, both in acquiring a throne and in keeping it.

Chandragupta met Chanakya in the forests of Vindhya. Chandragupta had been forced to flee to the forest after having offended Alexander, who had ordered for him to be killed.

The Seleucid provinces of the trans-Indus, which today would cover part of Afghanistan, were ceded to Chandragupta by Seleucus Nikator, a prefect of Alexander, in 303 B.C.

According to Jain scriptures, Chandragupta was converted to Jainism towards the end of his life and he abdicated in favour of his son and became an ascetic and passed his last days at Sravana Belgola in Mysore.

Chandragupta was succeeded by his son Bindusara in 297 B.C. To Greeks Bindusara was known as Amitrochates.

Tradition credits Bindusara with the suppression of a revolt in Taxila.

The kingdom of Kalinga (modern day Orissa), is known to have been independent during the reign of Bindusara.

A Greek named Deimachos was received as Ambassador of Greece in Bindusara's court. Bindusara extended Mauryan control in Deccan as far south as Mysore.

After Bindusara's death in 272 B.C., Ashoka, one of his many sons, seized power after putting his eldest brother to death.

During Bindusara's reign, Ashoka successively held the important viceroys of Taxila and Ujjain.

Ashoka is referred to as Devanampiya (the beloved of gods) Piyadassi (of amiable appearance) in inscriptions.

It was during Ashoka's reign that Kalinga was captured and made part of the Maurya empire. The conquest of



Kalinga resulted in the Maurya empire embracing the whole of non-Tamil India and a considerable portion of Afghanistan. The Mauryan empire under Ashoka stretched from the land of Yonas, Kambojas and Gandharas in the Kabul valley and some adjoining territory, to the country of the Andhras in the Godavari-Krishna basin and the district of Isila in the north of Mysore, and from Sopara and Girnar in the west to Dhauili and Jaugada in the east.

As per some traditional records, the dominions of Ashoka included the secluded hill-regions of Kashmir and Nepal, as well as plains of Pundravardhana (North Bengal) and Samatata (East Bengal). The discovery of inscriptions at Mansehra in the Hazra district, at Kalsi in the Dehradun district, at Nigali Sagar and Rummindei in the Nepalese Tarai and at Rampurva in the Champaran district of North Bengal are proofs to this.

According to the Kashmir chronicle of Kalhana, Ashoka's favourite deity was Shiva.

The Kalinga war proved to be a turning point in Ashoka's career. The sight of misery and bloodshed awakened in him sincere feelings of repentance and sorrow, and made him evolve a policy of dharmavijaya (conquest by piety). He also got deeply influenced by Buddhist teaching and became a zealous devotee of Buddhism.

Ashoka claimed of spiritual conquest of the realms of his Hellenistic, Tamil and Ceylonese neighbours.

Hellenistic neighbours of Ashoka were: Antiochos II (Theos of Syria), Ptolemy II (Philadelphos of Egypt), Antigonos (Gonatas of Macedonia), Magas (of Cyrene) and Alexander (of Epirus)

After making deep study of Buddhist scriptures Ashoka started undertaking dharmayatra (tours of morality) in course of which he visited the people of his country and instructed them on Dharma (morality and piety).

It was during the second royal tour that Ashoka visited the birthplace of Sakya-muni and that of a previous Buddha, and worshipped at these holy spots.

During Ashoka's reign the Buddhist church underwent reorganization, with the meeting of the third Buddhist Council at Patliputra in 250 B.C.

The third Council of Buddhists was the final attempt of the more secretarian Buddhists, the Theravada school, to exclude both dissidents and innovators from the Buddhist Order. Also, it was at this Council that it was decided to send missionaries to various parts of the sub-continent and to make Buddhism an actively proselytizing religion— which in later centuries led to the propagation of Buddhism in south and east Asia.

Ashoka does not refer to the third Council of Buddhism in any of his inscriptions, indicating that he was careful to make a distinction between his personal belief in and support for Buddhism, and his duty as an emperor to remain unattached and unbiased in favour of any religion.

Within two years of his first tours, Ashoka requisitioned the services of important officials like Rajukas (district judges), Pradesikas (revenue officials) and Yuktas (clerks) to publish rescripts on morality and set out on tours every five years to give instruction in morality, as well as on ordinary business. Later, Ashoka appointed exclusive officials, styled Dharma-Mahamatras or high officers in-charge of religion, to do the work. Ashoka himself undertook the tours after a gap of 10 years.

The capitals of the Ashokan pillars bear a remarkable similarity to those of Persepolis and it is believed that these might have been sculpted by craftsmen from the north-western province. The idea of making rock-inscriptions seems to have come to Ashoka after hearing about those of Darius.

The Ashokan inscriptions were in local script. Those found in northwest, in the region of Peshawar, are in the Kharoshthi script (derived from Aramaic script used in Iran), near modern Kandhar, the extreme west of empire, these are in Greek and Aramaic, and elsewhere in India these are in the Brahmi script.

The inscriptions of Ashoka are of two kinds. The smaller group consists of declarations of the king as a lay Buddhist, to his church, the Buddhist Sangha. These describe his own acceptance and relationship with the Sangha. The larger group of inscriptions are known as the Major and minor Rock Edicts inscribed in rock surfaces, and the Pillar Edicts inscribed on specially erected pillars, all of which were located in places where crowds were likely to gather. These were proclamations to the public at large, explaining the idea of Dharma.

Dharma was aimed at building up an attitude of mind in which social responsibility, the behaviour of one person towards another, was considered of great relevance. It was a plea for the recognition of the dignity of man, and for humanistic spirit in the activities of society.

Ashoka's son Prince Mahendra visited Ceylon (modern Sri Lanka) as a Buddhist missionary and convinced the ruler of the island kingdom, Devanampiya Tissa to convert to Buddhism.

Ashoka ruled for 37 years and died in 232 B.C.

With his death a political decline set in, and soon after the empire broke up. The Ganga valley remained under Mauryas for another 50 years. The north-western areas were lost to Bactrian Greeks by about 180 B.C.

As per the Puranic texts, the immediate successor of Ashoka was his son Kunala. The Chronicals of Kashmir, however, mention Jalauka as the son and successor.

Kunala was succeeded by his sons, one of whom, Bandhupalita, is known only in Puranas, and another, Sampadi, is mentioned by all traditional authorities. Then there was Dasratha who ruled Magadha shortly after Ashoka and has left three epigraphs in the Nagarjuni Hills in Bihar, recording the gift of caves to the Ajivikas.

The last king of the Maurya dynasty was Brihadratha, who was overthrown by his commander-in-chief, Pushyamitra, who laid the foundation of the Sunga dynasty.

The secession of Kashmir and possibly Berar from the Maurya empire is hinted at by Kalhana, the historian of Kashmir, and Kalidas, the author of the Sanskrit play, the *Malavikagnimitram*, respectively.

The Maurya period was the first time in Indian history that an empire extended from the Hindukush to the valleys of Godavari and Krishna.

A remarkable feature of the period was association of a prince of the blood or an allied chieftain with the titular or real head of the government, as a co-ordinate ruler. Such a prince was called *yuvaraj* (crown prince). This type of rule is known as *dvairajya* or diarchy.

The early Maurya rulers had no contact with China. Infact, China was unknown to Indian epigraphy before the Nagarjunikonda inscriptions.

The king during the Maurya period was assisted by a council of advisers styled the Parishad or the Mantri Parishad. There were also bodies of trained officials (nikaya) who looked after the ordinary affairs of the realm.

In the inscriptions of Ashoka there are references to Rajukas and Pradesikas, charged with the welfare of Janapadas or country parts and Pradesas or districts. Mahamatras were charged with the administration of cities (Nagala Viyohalaka) and sundry other matters, and a host of minor officials, including clerks (Yuta), scribes (Lipikar) and reporters (Pativedaka).

The Arthshastra refers to the highest officers as the eighteen tirthas, the chief among them were the Mantrin (chief minister), Purohit (high priest), Yuvraja (heir-apparent) and Senapati (commander-in-chief).

The head of the judiciary was the king himself, but there were special tribunals of justice, headed by Mahamatras and Rajukas.

The protection of Chandragupta Maurya was entrusted to an amazonian bodyguard of women. The fighting forces during Chandragupta's time were under the supervision of a governing body of thirty divided into six boards of five members each.

The chief sources of revenue were the bhaga and the bali. The bhaga was the king's share of the produce of the soil, which was normally fixed at one-sixth, though in special cases it was raised to one-fourth or reduced to one-eighth. Bali was an extra impost levied on special tracts for the subsistence of certain officials.

Taxes on the land were collected by the Agronomoi who measured the land and superintended the irrigation works.

In urban areas the main sources of revenue were birth and death taxes, fines and tithes on sales. Arthshastra refers to certain high revenue functionaries styled the samaharti and the sannidharti. The most famous of the irrigation works of the early Maurya period is the Sudarshan lake of Kathiawar, constructed by Pushyagupta the Vaisya, an officer of Chandragupta Maurya, and provided with supplemental channels by the Yavanaraja Tushaspha in the days of Ashoka.

The Mauryas divided their dominions into provinces subdivided into districts called ahara, vishya and pardesh.

The secret emissaries who enquired into and superintended all that went in the empire were called pativedakas.

Varna (caste) and ashram (periods of stages of religious discipline), the two characteristic institutions of the Hindu social polity, reached a definite stage in the Maurya period.

The philosophers, the husbandmen, the herdsmen and hunters, the traders and artisans, the soldiers, the overseers and the councillors constituted the seven castes into which the population of India was divided in the days of Megasthenes.

Slavery was an established institution during the Maurya period.

Broach was a major port during the Mauryan period.

The copper coin of eighty ratis (146.4 grs) was known as Karshapana. The name was also applied to silver and gold coins, particularly in south.

Three works, the Kautiliya Arthshastra, the Kalpasutra of Bhadrabahu and the Buddhist Katha vatthu, are attributed to personages who are said to have flourished in the Maurya period.

With the fall of the Mauryas, Indian history lost its unity for sometime. Hordes of foreign barbarians poured through the northwestern gates of the country and established powerful kingdoms in Gandhara (north-west Frontier), Sakala (north-central Punjab) and other places.

In the south, the Satavahanas came to power. The founder of the family was Simuka, but the man who raised it to eminence was his son Satakarni-I.

Sometimes after the death of Satakarni-I, the Satavahana power submerged beneath a wave of Scythian invasion. But, the lost glory was restored by Gautamiputra Satkarni, who built an empire that extended from Malwa in the north to the Kanarese country in south.

Two cities of Vijayanti (in north Kanara) and Amaravati (in the Guntur district) attained eminence in the Satavahana period.

Sri Yajana Satkarni was the last great prince of the line and after him the empire fell to pieces.

The earlier Satavahana empire had a formidable rival in the kingdom of Kalinga, which became independent after the death of Ashoka and rose to greatness under Kharavela.

In the far south of India, beyond the Venkata Hills, known as Dravida or Tamil country, three important States that came into being were Chola, Pandya and Kerala.

The Cholas occupied the present Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts and showed great military activity.

The Pandyas occupied the districts of Madura and Tinnevely with portions of South Travancore. They excelled in trade and learning.

A Pandya king is said to have sent an embassy to the Roman empire in the first century B.C.

The Kerala country embraced Malabar, Cochin and North Travancore.

The political disintegration of India after the fall of Maurya empire renewed warlike activities on the part of the Greeks of Syria and Bactria.

The last known Greek king to rule any part of India was Hermaikos.

The foreign conquerors who supplanted the Greeks in north-west India belong to three main groups, namely,

Saka, Pahlava or Parthian and Yue-chi or Kushan.

The Sakas were displaced from their home in Central Asia by the Yue-chi and were forced to migrate south. The territory they occupied came to be known as Sakasthana, modern Sistan.

Kanishka is attributed by many scholars to have founded the Saka era in A.D. 78. He is the only Scythian king known to have established an era. Strictly speaking, though, he was a Kushan and not a Saka.

According to Hiuen Tsang, the great empire over which Kanishka exercised his sway had its capital at Purushapura or Peshawar. His territory extended from Gandhara to Oudh and Benaras.

Kanishka is known for his patronage to the religion of Sakya-muni and his monuments.

In Buddhist history, Kanishka's name is honoured as that of a prince who summoned a great council (fourth Buddhist Council in Srinagar) to examine the Buddhist scriptures and prepare commentaries on them.

Among the celebrities who graced Kanishka's court was Asvaghosha, a philosopher, poet and dramatist, who wrote the Buddha Charita.

Kanishka's rule lasted 23 years. His immediate successor was Vasishka, followed by Huvishka. Mathura became the great centre of Kushan power under Huvishka.

Huvishka's empire was spread further west, till Wardak to the west of Kabul.

The last great Kushan king was Vasudeva-I.

The decline of Kushan power in the northwest was hastened by the rise of the Sassanian dynasty in Persia.

# History - Jainism and Buddhism

The parents of Mahavira were Siddhartha, a Janatrika chief of Kundapura, and Trishala, a Kshatriya lady related to the ruling families of Vaishali and Magadha.

Mahavira married a princess named Yashoda.

Mahavira forsook the world at the age of thirty and roamed as a naked ascetic in several parts of eastern India and practiced severe penance for 12 years. Half of this time was spent with a mendicant (beggar) friar (brother) named Goshala who subsequently left him and became the leader of the Ajivika sect.

In the 13th year of penance, Mahavira attained the highest spiritual knowledge called Kevala-jnana, on the northern bank of river Rijupalika, outside Jrimbhikagrama, a little known locality in eastern India. He was now known as a Kevalin (omniscient), a Jina (conqueror) and Mahavira (the great hero).

Mahavira became the head of a sect called Nigranthas (free from Fretters), known in later times as Jains or followers of Jina (conqueror).

Mahavira died at Pava in south Bihar, after wandering for 35 years as a religious teacher, at the age of 72.

The Jains believe that Mahavira was not the founder of a new religious system, but the last of a long succession of 24 Tirthankars or “ford-makers across the stream of existence”.

The 23rd teacher, Parsav, the immediate predecessor of Mahavira, was a prince of Benaras and enjoined on his disciples the great four vows of non-injury, truthfulness, abstention from stealing and non-attachment.

Mahavira added the vow of Brahamcharya or continence to this.

Jainism was atheistic in nature, the existence of God being irrelevant to its doctrine. It believes that universe functions according to an eternal law and is continually passing through a series of cosmic waves of progress and decline. Everything in the universe, material or otherwise, has a soul. The purification of the soul is the purpose of living, for the pure soul is released from the body and then resides in bliss.

Jains believe that by following the three-fold path of right Belief, right Knowledge and right Conduct, souls will be released from transmigration and reach the pure and blissful abode or Siddha Sila.

Jainism spread rapidly among the trading community. The emphasis on non-violence prevented agriculturists from being Jainas, since cultivation involved killing insects and pests.

According to the tradition of the Svetambara Jains, the original doctrine taught by Mahavira was contained in fourteen old texts styled Purvas.

Close to 4th century B.C., due to a famine in south Bihar, important sections of Jains, headed by Bhadrabahu,

fled to Mysore.

To revive the knowledge of sacred texts, which was passing into oblivion following the famine in south Bihar and fleeing of majority of Jains, a council was convoked by those who were left behind in Pataliputra, which resulted in compilation of the 12 Angas which are regarded as the most important part of the Jain canon. Another council was held at Valabhi in Gujarat in 5th or 6th century A.D. which made a final collection of the scriptures and reduced them to writing.

The followers of Bhadrabahu, on their return to the north, refused to acknowledge the Angas and came to be known as Svetambaras (clad in white) as they wore white garments notwithstanding the injunctions of Mahavira. The original followers came to be called Digambaras (sky-clad or naked).

Gautama Buddha was born as Siddhartha to Suddhodana, a Raja or noble of Kapilvastu (in the Nepal Terai to the north of Basti district of Uttar Pradesh) and Maya, a princess of Devadaha, a small town in the Sakya territory. Maya died while giving birth to Siddhartha and he was brought up by his aunt and step-mother Prajapati Gautami.

The site of nativity of Gautama Buddha is marked by the celebrated Rummindei Pillar of Ashoka. Siddhartha was married to Yashodara at the age of 16. Yashodara was also known as Bhadda Kachchana, Subhadraka, Bimba or Gopa.

The Great Renunciation took place when Sidhartha reached the age of 29. For six years he lived as a homeless ascetic. At Uruvila he practiced the most rigid austerities only to find that they were of no help to him to achieve his goal.

Sidhartha finally sat under a pipal or Banyan tree at modern Bodh Gaya, after taking a bath in the stream of river Nairanjana, modern Lilajan. Here he attained the supreme knowledge and insight and became known as Buddha or the Enlightened One, Tathagata (“he who attained the truth”) and Sakya-muni or the sage of the Sakya clan.

The first sermon by Buddha was given in the Deer Park near Sarnath, in the neighbourhood of Benaras. This sermon was called the Turning of the Wheel of Law, and was the nucleus of the Buddhist teachings.

Among Buddha’s early converts was his cousin Devadatta who, subsequently broke away and founded a rival sect that survived in parts of Oudh and western Bengal till the Gupta period.

The Buddha is said to have died at the age of 80 at Kusinagar, modern Kasia in the Gorakhpur district of Uttar Pradesh.

Buddha taught his followers the four “Noble Truths” (Arya Satya) concerning suffering, the cause of suffering, the destruction of suffering and the way that leads to the destruction of sorrow.

As per Buddhist teachings, salvation is possible through the Eightfold Path, which consisted of eight principles of action, leading to a balanced, moderate life (right views, resolves, speech conduct, livelihood, effort, recollection and meditation, the combination of which was described as Middle Way).



The doctrine of karma was essential to the Buddhist way of salvation.

Unlike the brahmanical idea, karma was not used to explain away caste status, since Buddha rejected caste.

Buddhism was atheistic, in as much as God was not essential to the Universe, there being a natural cosmic rise and decline.

The acceptance of nuns in the Buddhist monasteries was a revolutionary step from the point of view of the status of women.

The earliest surviving form of Buddhism, called Theravada, is still predominant in Sri Lanka and South-East Asian countries.

Shortly after the death of Buddha a great Council (Sangiti) was held at Rajagriha to compile the religious doctrine (Dharma) and the monastic code (Vinaya). A second council was convoked a century later at Vaishali which condemned the rules in respect of the ten points and revised the scriptures.

A fresh condemnation of heresy took place during the reign of Ashoka, under whose patronage a third council was summoned at Pataliputra by a learned monk, Tisaa Moggaliputta, 236 years after Buddha's death.

The fourth council was held under Kanishka which prepared elaborate commentaries (Upadesh Shastras and Vibhasha Shastras) on the sacred texts.

According to Sri Lankan tradition, the sacred texts and commentaries were written down in books in first century B.C. during the reign of King Vattagamani Abhaya. Later, the texts, as distinguished from the commentaries, came to be known as Pali.

# History - Imperial Guptas

Ashoka's death left a vacuum in India for the next 600 years, during which, several foreign tribes overran India. With the ascent of the Gupta power, the northern States were merged into a single empire. This national revival yielded an excellent administration and trade, all-round development with prevailing order and peace. The tax-burden was low compared to the Mauryan rule and the State provided for safe roads for trade. The period saw the revival of religion, Sanskrit literature, art and architecture too.

After the Mauryas, the two main powers were the Satavahanas in the Deccan and the Kushanas in the north. They carried on brisk trade with the Roman empire. These powers were replaced in the middle of the 3rd century A.D. by the Guptas. The Guptas were Vaishyas by caste and followed Vaishnavism.

The main centres of Gupta activity were Magadha (Pataliputra), Prayag (Allahabad), Ujjain (M.P., considered as their second capital), Saket (Ayodhya, U.P.), and Sarnath (Benaras, Varanasi, U.P.).

Sri Gupta and his son Ghatotkacha Gupta were the first definite rulers of this dynasty, who also used the term 'Maharaja'. However, no definite place is assigned to them over which they ruled.

Chandragupta-I is considered "real founder". He started the Gupta Era (320 A.D.). His marriage alliance with the Licchavi (North Bihar) princess Kumaradevi enhanced his status and he ruled over Oudh, Magadh and Prayag.

Samudra Gupta's campaigns have been mentioned by his court poet Harisena in the Prayag Prasasti, which is a valuable source of information for the various States, tribes and their rulers. His victory over the Nagas, Hunas, Vakatakas, etc gave him the title of "Indian Napoleon" (for his conquests), especially the Vakataka ruler Pravarasena (of Berar, Deccan) and Tamralipti (Bengal).

The Guptas were secular rulers and offered religious freedom to the society.

Chandra Gupta-II ("Vikramaditya") defeated his elder brother Ramagupta and the Saka chief Basana, because Ramagupta had agreed to offer his wife Dhruvadevi to save the kingdom from Basana. To strengthen his position further, he married his daughter Prabhadevi, by his wife Kuber Naga, to the Vakataka king Rudrasena II. The Vakatakas helped him to end the power of the Sakas of Western India.

Vikramaditya is identified with king Chandra of the iron pillar inscription near Qutab Minar, Delhi. The reign of Vikramaditya also saw the visit of the

Chinese monk Fahien, who wanted to secure some copies of Buddhist manuscripts from India.

Skanda Gupta is famous for saving the empire from the Huna tribe, which had overran Asia and Europe. They suffered a terrible defeat in India.

Skanda Gupta appointed Parnadatta as governor to the Sakas at Saurashtra. The famous Junagarh rock inscription in Girnar hills, Kathiawar, refers to the repair of the embankment of the Sudarshan Lake by

Parnadatta and his son Chakrapalita.

The last important Gupta ruler was Vishnu Gupta.

Archaeological sources of Gupta history are available as “prasastis” (charters recording land grants, etc). They are called Tamra sasanas or Tamrapatras (copper plates).

Gupta coins were first issued by Samudra Gupta, as the golden “Dinara”. He also issued Chandragupta and Kumaradevi type coins to commemorate his father’s marriage to the Licchavi princess.

The first silver coins were issued by Chandragupta-II, on imitation of the western Satraps. Copper coins were also issued.

Brahmanical faith, which had been eclipsed for long by the new sects of Buddhism and Jainism, achieved immense splendour under the Vaishnavite Guptas, who also encouraged to revive use of Sanskrit.

Devi worship in various forms achieved importance during Gupta period. Lakshmi was worshipped as consort to Vishnu and Parvati to Shiva.

Emergence of Bhakti cult, stressing on worship, devotion and love towards a personal God, gained importance during the Gupta period.

Literature and intellectual progress also manifested unparalleled progress. Sanskrit was honoured as the State language.

Some important scholars/works of the period are:

- (a) Vishnusharma — wrote Panchatantra, a collection of moral stories.
- (b) Harisena—author of Prayag (Allahabad) prasasti (inscription)—gives account of Samudragupta’s campaigns.
- (c) Vishakhadutta — wrote Mudra Rakshas (on Mauryas and Nandas) and Devichandragupta (on Chandragupta-II and Dhruva Devi).
- (d) Shudraka—wrote Mricchakatika (a drama on a Brahmin merchant Charudutt and a courtesan Vasantsena, portrays city life).
- (e) Bharavi—epic poem Kirtarjuneya (Arjuna and the disguised hunter Shiva).
- (f) Dandin—Dasakumaracharita (stories of 10 princes).
- (g) Subandhu—Vasavdatta (story of prince Kandarpketu and princess Vasavdatta).
- (h) Banabhatta—a later date writer—wrote Harshacharita and Kadambari—he was court poet of Harsha Vardhana.
- (i) Amarsimha—a lexicographer—he wrote Amarakosa, he listed various metals and alloys.
- (j) Kamandaka—Nitisara (on Chandragupta-I’s polity and administration)—is parallel to Kautilya’s Arthashastra.
- (k) Puranas—religious literature was made more appealing. Puranas were finally written down.
- (l) Kalidasa—greatest literary scholar—wrote the dramas Abhijnanasakuntalam (Shakuntala), Vikramorvasiya, Malvikagnimitra; The epics Raghuvamsa and Kumarasambhava; The poetries Meghaduta and Ritusamhara.

Nalanda (Rajagriha, Bihar) was founded by Kumaragupta (A.D. 450) and was famous for its tests. There was free education. It had 10,000 students, 1,500 teachers and 300 classrooms, a big three-storeyed library. Huen Tsang who came later, during Harsha, studied here for five years. Itsing (A.D. 675) records a donation by Sri Gupta, for the University.

Guptas started using bricks for temples (E.g. Bhitargaon temple, Kanpur). The Dasavatara temple, dedicated to Vishnu, at Deogarh, Jhansi shows a transitory State from flat roof temples to the shikhara style.

In sculpture, purely indigenous patterns were adopted—instead of the Kushana period Buddha with shaven head, we have the Buddha with curly hair now, and transparent drapery was used along with various mudras (postures). The main centres were Sarnath (Benaras), Mathura, Pataliputra (Patna).

Some famous sculptures of Gupta period are:

- The seated or preaching Buddha, giving his first sermon, discovered in sandstone, at Varanasi.
- The standing Buddha, at Mathura, in red sandstone.
- The great boar—as Vishnu's incarnation—Udaigiri caves.

The art of painting reached its zenith during the Gupta period and is manifested at Bagh caves (Gwalior, M.P.) and Ajanta caves (Maharashtra).

Aryabhatta—mathematician and astronomer of Gupta period—wrote Aryabhattachiya and Surya Siddhanta. He explained the eclipses, shape of earth, its rotation and revolution and gave important results in maths too.

Brahmagupta—of Ujjain—had an observatory.

Varahmihir wrote Jyotishsastra and Pancha siddhantika on astronomy.

Vagabhatta—Physician—wrote Astangasangraha.

The central administrative system of the Gupta era comprised the Mantri/Sachiv (modern Chief Minister), Bhatasvapati (commander of infantry and cavalry), Kataka (commander of elephants), Dandapasadhikaran (police chief), Kumaramatyas and Ayuktas (provincial heads).

Each province was called bhukti and was under such officials as uparikas, bhojikas, goptas, rajasthaniyas, etc.

The provinces were divided into vishtyas, under charge of Vishyapatis. The lowest division (village) was under the gramika (village headman).

Land was properly classified into kshetra (cultivable), khila (wasteland), donations for brahmins (agrahara grants), donations for religious purposes (Devagrahara land grants) and so on.

The land revenue system was put in charge of Dhruvadhikaranika. The pustapala was an officer especially appointed to record various land transactions.

The receivers of land grants had the right to enjoy land revenue from the farmers. They could even punish and

try thieves. Thus, there was serfdom (forced work) and oppression of the peasantry.

A number of taxes had to be paid to the king. These were: Bhaga (1/6th of produce). Bhoga (taxes in kind fruits, wood, flowers, etc.). Kara (periodic tax on farmers). Uparikara (extra taxes). Udianga (probably water tax). Sulka (modern customs tax). Klipta and Upaklipta (purchase and sales taxes).

There were two classes of merchants—settled (sresthi) and caravan traders (Sarthavaha). The group of merchants called as “puga” constituted the advisory council in cities. Its president was the Nagarsresthi. Town mayor was called Purupala.

The Guptas spread Indian culture to the S.E. Asian countries, especially Mahayana Buddhism and Hinduism.

The Srenis (traders unions or guilds) had immense powers. Not only did they perform economic functions but also judicial and executive ones. Some of them even issued seals and coins and had their own militia (called Srenibala, in the Kalachuri inscriptions).

Narada and Brihaspati smritis lay down the rules for merchants. The normal rate of interest was 15% per annum.

The most important metal of the Gupta age was iron.

The blacksmith acquired the second most important place in the village economy. The iron pillar (of Chandra Gupta-II) is a fine example of iron workers of Gupta period.

The term golden age can be applied mainly for the economically upper classes, and that too in Northern India only. Though art and architecture flourished, it was confined as a “State art”. There was flourishing trade with the southeast, but, on the whole, there was decline of trade centres and towns. Sanskrit literature, undoubtedly, made immense progress, but it was more of a state language, limited to the learned ones.

The caste-system became rigid during this period. Manu, for instance, had put several restrictions on the woman and the shudras. In no way was the tax-burden on the common man low. The flourishing money—economy during their predecessors (Kushanas and Satvahanas)—also slowly broke down. Fahien mentions use of “cowries” (shells) as the “common medium of exchange”, indicating shortage of coins.

# History - Trade & Commerce in ancient India

Metallurgy is as old as pre-historic times. Mining of metals was known even in pre-Vedic period and during the Harappa period various metals like copper, lead, silver were in use.

During Vedic period, metal (ayas) was chiefly of two kinds—krishna ayas (black metal or iron) used during later Vedic period and loh ayas (copper).

The Jatakas refer to eighteen important handicrafts and industries.

The Vaishyas developed institutions like Sreni, Nigama and Puga to regulate trade and avoid intrusion by other varnas and develop monopoly.

Proper rules of conduct of trade were laid by the head of trade guilds, known as Sarthavaha or Srenipramukha. The rules were called Samay and Srenidharma.

Taxila, Pushkalavati, Kapisa and Vidisha prospered as trade centres, under the Indo-Greek rulers.

Kautilya asked the king to develop measures to stop obstruction of the trade routes by his favourite men (vallabhas). Frontier guards (Antapalas) were also appointed.

The close contacts between the commercial classes and the king's court is very clear from the rules of the settlement layout of the historic city of Patliputra. Here, people lived in various parts, according to their social status.

Kautilya looked upon artisans and traders as big thieves and held them under suspect. He demanded strict control over them, as also with the often indisciplined frontier guards (antapalas).

Guilds of merchants were properly registered and even served as banks.

During Mauryas, most important trade route was from Taxila to Patliputra.

Ships in ancient period were usually of the two-masted type. In the 2nd century A.D., a regular sea-route was in operation for the quest for gold (swarna).

Monsoons (Arabic: Mausam) were discovered by Hippalus (Greek captain) and this discovery in 45 A.D. that monsoons could sail ships from Alexandria to Western India in just a 40-days period, tremendously increased the Roman sea-trade, due to shortening of trade-route.

Muziris (Cranganore, Kerala) and Puhar (in Cholamandalam) were major sea-ports and foreign settlements.

Among land-routes, the silk-route was very often in use till Kushan period. Later period saw it becoming unsafe, due to robbers.

The Periplus of Erythrean Sea is a travellers' handbook (Erythrean Sea—Red sea). It mentions more than 20 trade ports like: Barygaza (Broach), Suppara (Soparal), Kalliena (Kalyana), Muziris (Pondicherry), Soptama (Madras), Puhar (Orissa), Masalia (Masulipatnam).

The important exports from India were: Fine textiles from Varanasi, Malabathrum (spicy leaves) from Tamralipti (Tamluk, R. Ganges, Bengal), muslins (Pondicherry), pepper (Muziris), ivory (Puhar, Orissa).

Pepper was a very valuable export till 13th century A.D. Marco Polo (Italy) mentions that a ship was measured by the number of pepper baskets contained in it.

Trade suffered a setback in 3rd century A.D. But in the 4th century A.D., silk trade increased and silk was brought within reach of the common man. The decline in the westward trade towards the 2nd-3rd century A.D. was later compensated for by the prospering trade now developed with the south-east Asian States like the Suvarnabhumi, Kambuja (Kampuchea), Champa (Annam).

During Guptas, there was no material change in the previous trade-routes, trade practices, organisation, currency system, etc. The one note-worthy change was a decline in the Roman trade and the three major ports of Muziris, Arikamedu and Kaveripattinam.

In his plays, Kalidas portrays a good view of the town markets and trade transactions. The internal trade now expanded to several inland trade centres.

Roman emperor Aurelian declared Indian silk to be its worth in gold. Indians acted as intermediaries to the Chinese silk trade and the Western States.

Among spices, pepper always held the first place and was declared passion of the Yavanas (Romans).

The demand for Roman goods was smaller than that of Indian goods abroad and it suffered an adverse trade balance of trade. To make up this balance, the Romans supplied gold and silver coins to India. This ever-increasing drain of wealth was once complained by the emperor Tiberius (22 A.D.). The author Pliny also laments such losses.

The Kushanas remoulded the Roman coins so that they could be used as currency.

Among imports, there were singing boys, virgins for the rulers' harem, slaves and valuable corals (Mediterranean Red Variety), dates, Italian vases and wines, sweet clovers, glass, tin (Spain), emeralds, etc.

The Divyavadana refers to the science of testing gems. The merchants' sons were trained in 64 Angavidyas or finearts, according to Vatsyayana.

Rome, the Chief importer of Indian muslin, once banned it, due to the rising loss of morals of its females.

Narada, Katyayana and Brihaspati gave specific instructions towards the rights and duties of guild members, in their smritis. Gupta sites of Basarh (Vaisali) and Bhita (Allahabad) bear the names Nigama and Sreni



Sarthavaha Kulika Nigama at Vaisali.

India obtained brass, lead and gold from foreigners, whereas Indian iron and steel (saikya ayas) was very advanced in quality and was exported.

Milindpanho mentions 75 trades, 60 related to crafts, 8 to metals.

Charaksamhita (on Indian tradi-tional medicine and surgery) recommends the use of saikya ayas for operations.

Nasik cave inscription tells that srenis often acted as law providers also. (Sresthis, are now called as Seths, Settis in South India and also Chettiyars).

Rate of interest fluctuated greatly, but was usually near 15% (higher for loans for sea-trade).

The common coins were: Nishka and Pala of Gold, Shatmana of silver, Kakini of copper and brass. The most common coin Karshapana was made of various metals.

The major source of revenue for Guptas was land revenue.

Textiles formed a major industry in this period. Rock cutting also evolved as another important occupation due to the rapid rise in use of statues for prayers.

India imported horses from Arabia, Iran and Bactria.

Ujjain was the most flourishing trade centre in and around the Gupta period.

### **Agrarian Structure in Post-Gupta period**

A lot of confusion about agrarian structure of post-Gupta period exists, due to the contradictory picture provided by several Smriti writers and other sources.

There were several land grants, both secular and religious in nature. The secular grants were mostly towards the high officials while religious grants were towards the Brahmins and the temples.

The practice of land grants finally developed feudalism. The peasant, who was initially free was now under severe burden. There were several intermediate classes of land owners.

There was an increase in the forced labour, Vishti, due to the emergence of a “landed aristocratic class”.

The peasants were mostly sudras. In fact, peasants were thought of as sudras.

All land was supposed to be under the State ownership, but in practice individuals were owners of land.

Various categories of ownerships existed, like Sakta (land owned by individuals), Prakrsta (tilled by certain individuals), Kaustambakshetra (fields owned by cultivators themselves).

In a few land grants, villages are described as also carrying with them the right towards all traders living in it. The grants were rent-free.

Aprada, Sasana, Chaturvaiya-grama, Brahmadeya, etc are names of land grants. The rights were hereditary.

The Kashmiri ruler Shankaravarman used to usurp lands from grant holders.

During Harsha, cash payments were usually for military services only.

Agrahara land was granted only to brahmins.

### **Social Changes**

Rig Vedic society was chiefly pastoral and semi-nomadic. Their chief wealth was the gau (cow) and a wealthy person was called gomastha, the king or head was called gopati or gopa.

Vedic society in early period had no such serving class like the shudras.

Early literature of the Buddhists provides a picture of a settled agricultural economy and an emerging commerce in urban centres.

Mauryas saw a tremendous increase in trade.

The Gupta period saw changes in agrarian structure due to system of land grants.

Varna Samkara denotes mixed castes, considered ritually impure, included tribes or descendants of intercaste marriages.

A child born out of brahmin and vaishya combination was called ambastha and that of brahmin and sudra as nisada, vaishya and sudra as ugra, brahmin and sudra as parsava.

In the later vedic period, there were as many as 17 kinds of priests looking into various sacrifices. The Brahmin was one such priest, who gradually surpassed them and became their representative.

Besides the four varnas, there was a Panchamvarna (5th varna), comprising the untouchables.

The principal tax-payers were the vaishyas.

The social transformation of vaishya and sudras was under crisis in the 3rd century A.D., due to refusal to stick to their occupations and pay taxes. The practice of land grants was started by a few rulers to relax the tax collections, now entrusted to grant holders.

The term Rajanya, existing in literary sources as well as in coins, signifies kshatriyas.

In the Buddhist texts, the social order is denoted as: kshatriya, brahmin, vaishya and sudra (i.e. brahmins at 2nd place, not first). Vaishyas are called grahapatis or householders.

The samskaras were important religious sacraments for the human body. They are generally 16 in number.

There are eight forms of marriage, according to the Dharmasastras. The approved ones are: Brahma, Prajapatya, Daiva and Arsa. Divorce was severely condemned. The unapproved ones were: asura, paisacha, rakshasa and gandharva (love marriage). Re-marriage was allowed by the Brahmanical law givers as well as by Kautilya.

Polygamy was generally practiced by the socially upper classes.

Intercaste marriages were generally in Anuloma system (marriage of high caste male with low caste female).

There were several mixed castes also, arising out of tribals and foreigners.

The asura form of marriage (marriage by purchase) was quite prevalent, even though not approved by the shastras.

The position of women declined during the pre-Gupta and Gupta times and further more in later periods.

The use of veils (purdah) by women can be noticed near Harsha's times (his sister Rajyasri used it) and increased during the advent of Muslims.

Some smritis encourage the practice of sati. The first definite historical incident of sati is recorded in 510 A.D., in the case of wife of Goparaja (a general of Bhanu Gupta). It existed mostly in Deccan and Central India.

Smritis recommend an austere life for widows. The skanda purana advocates the shaving of heads of widows.

During post-Gupta period, Vaishnava Dharma was prevalent in India. Lalitaditya of Kashmir, Sens of Bengal, Chandels and Chauhans were mostly Vaishnavites. However, the epicentre of Vaisnavism was the Tamil region.

Alwar saints brought the worship of Vishnu to new heights, mainly in the 9th and 10th centuries. Two famous female Alwar saints were Andal and Namallalwar.

Among Hindus, Shaivites were most numerous. The Pala rulers of Bengal were Buddhists, but their inscriptions begin with Om Namah Shivaya.

Ganesha became a popular deity of the Hindus in the 10th century A.D., especially in the western States, where Ganapati cult arose and held Ganesha as higher than other deities. Ganesha Chaturthi celebrations (mentioned in Agni Purana) are believed to originate somewhere around 9-10th century A.D.

Huen Tsang, speaks of a flourishing Buddhist faith, even in the 7th century A.D., besides other faiths, especially in U.P., Bihar and Bengal.

The Kayastha caste was also born somewhere during Gupta period. They were usually scribes under State

service. First mention of Kayasthas is made by Yajurveda. During Guptas, they existed only as a social class and later they got converted into a caste.

Antayajas were a class of people living outside the town, as they were considered untouchables. The synonym Chandala has also been used for them. They were considered even lower than the sudras.

# Indian Constitution

Idea for a Constituent Assembly for drafting a constitution for India was first provided by Bal Gangadhar Tilak in 1895.

The elections for the first Constituent Assembly were held in July 1946. Initially it had 389 members, but later the reformed Assembly had 324 members.

The State of Hyderabad did not participate in elections to the Constituent Assembly.

The first meeting of Constituent Assembly was held on December 9, 1946— its president was Dr Sachchidanand Sinha.

The second meeting was held on December 11, 1946. Its president was Dr Rajendra Prasad.

The Objectives Resolution was passed under chairmanship of J.L. Nehru.

The Draft of Indian Constitution was presented in October 1947. President of the Drafting Committee was Bhim Rao Ambedkar.

The Flag Committee worked under J.B. Kripalani.

The total time consumed to prepare the draft was 2 years, 11 months, 18 days. Total 11 meetings were held for this.

The Indian Constitution was enacted on November 26, 1946 and put into force on January 26, 1950.

The Constitution today has 444 Articles and 12 schedules. Originally there were 395 Articles and 8 schedules.

SOCIALIST, SECULAR, INTEGRITY—these words were added to the Preamble later, through the 42nd Amendment, 1976.

The Preamble contains aims and objectives of our Constitution.

Fundament Rights are contained in Part III— called “Magna Carta” of the Constitution. The idea was borrowed from USA. Initially there were 7 fundamental rights, now there are only 6. (The Right to Property was deleted by the 44th amendment in 1978. It is now a judicial right—it has been moved to Article 300(A).)

The Supreme Court judgement in Keshwanand Bharti vs Kerala case provided that Fundamental Rights can be altered by the Parliament as long as the basic structure of the Constitution remains intact.

The Minerva Mills case ruling of the Supreme Court, however, ruled that Fundamental rights are basic part of the Constitution. The power to alter them was snatched away.

Fundamental Right of Equality provides for:

- Equality in government jobs (Article 16).
- No discriminations (Article 15).
- No untouchability (Article 17).
- Abolition of titles (Article 18).

The important freedoms granted are:

- Against exploitation (Article 23).
- Against child labour (Article 24).

The Right to Constitutional Remedies is provided under Article 32.

The Constitution provides that High Courts and the Supreme Court can issue various writs (written orders) to safeguard freedom of an individual. There are five types of writs:

Habeas Corpus—“may I have the body”—it orders to present reasons as well as physical presence of a body in court, within 24 hours of arrest.

Mandamus—issued to person, office or court—to enforce duties—also called “Param Aadesh”.

Prohibition—issued to inferior courts, by superior courts—it prohibits (stops) action of acts outside their jurisdiction.

Quo Warranto—it asks how one has gained unauthorised office.

Certiorari —Higher Court takes over case from lower courts.

Dr Ambedkar has called this article as “soul” of the Constitution.

Directive Principles of State Policy act as guidelines or morals for the government. They are contained in Part IV of the Constitution. They were borrowed from Ireland. Some important directive principles are:

- Gram Panchayats (Article 40).
- Uniform civil code (Article 44).
- Free and compulsory education (Article 45).

Fundamental duties are contained in part IV(A). There are ten fundamental duties listed in the Constitution.

This idea was borrowed from Russia.

The Vice President is the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. However, he is not a member of any House.

If a member is found sitting in another House of Parliament, of which he is not a member, he has to pay a fine of Rs 5000.

Rajya Sabha has 250 members—238 elected and 12 nominated by the President. Uttar Pradesh elects maximum number of members for the Rajya Sabha (34), followed by Bihar (22) and Maharashtra (19).

In one year time, the President must hold at least two meetings of the Rajya Sabha.

If a state of Emergency is declared, the Lok Sabha is dissolved, but not the Rajya Sabha (It is a permanent House).

Lok Sabha has 547 members—545 elected and 2 nominated from the Anglo-Indian Community.

During a state of emergency, the tenure of Lok Sabha can be extended by a maximum of one year.

Maximum number of members of Lok Sabha are elected from Uttar Pradesh (80 members), followed by Bihar (54) and Maharashtra (48).

Minimum age for becoming member of Lok Sabha is 25 years and Rajya Sabha is 30 years.

Minimum age to be eligible for the post of the President is 35 years.

The President is elected by members of both Houses of Parliament and State Legislative Assemblies.

The Vice President is elected by all members of the Parliament.

To discuss an important topic, the normal procedure of the Parliament is stopped under the Adjournment motion.

Decision about whether a Bill is a Money Bill or not is taken by the Lok Sabha Speaker.

The first High Courts in India were established at Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras, in 1862. Allahabad and Delhi were established next in 1866.

Maximum age to remain a High Court judge is 62 years and maximum age to remain a Supreme Court judge is 65 years.

The process for removal of Comptroller and Auditor General of India is same as that of judges of the Supreme Court.

Attorney General is the law expert to government. He can participate and speak in both Houses of Parliament, but is not allowed to vote.

The idea of having a Lokpal to check corruption at the highest level has been borrowed from “Ombudsman” of Sweden. In the States, we have the Lok Ayukta.

There are three types of Emergencies that can be proclaimed by the President. Emergency under Article 352—due to war or internal rebellion. (Implemented three times (1962, 71, 75).)

Emergency under Article 356—Constitutional problems. (Implemented many times, in various States like J&K, Punjab, etc.)

Emergency under Article 360—Financial Emergency. (Not implemented so far).

The Constitution initially recognised 14 National Languages. Later, four more were added. These were: Sindhi



(21st amendment), Nepali, Konkani and Manipuri (71st amendment).

To gain the status of a National Party, a political party must be recognised in four or more States, attaining at least 4% votes on national scale and 9% in each State.

The flag of the Congress party was accepted as the National Flag (with few changes) on July 22, 1947.

The new Flag Code of India gives freedom to individuals to hoist the flag on all days, but with due respect to the flag.

The Question hour in the Parliament is observed from 11 am to 12 noon. The Zero hour is observed from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm.

Balwant Rai Mehta Committee suggested a three-tier structure for Panchayati Raj—Gram Panchayat village level, Panchayat Samiti at block level and Zila Parishad in districts.

First Constitutional Amendment—1951—put a ban on propagating ideas to harm friendly relations with foreign countries.

Planning Commission is only an advisory and specialist body. Its chairman is the Prime Minister.

National Development Council is the main body concerned with the actual planning process. Its chairman is also the Prime Minister.

The first leader of the Opposition was Ram Subhag Singh, in 1969.

The shortest Lok Sabha span was 13 days (12th Lok Sabha in 1998).

Although the Parliament can pass impeachment motion against judges, their conduct cannot be discussed by it.

There are at present 18 High Courts in India.

Article 370 gives special status to Jammu & Kashmir.

The Indian Constitution was the first of the preceding two centuries which was not imposed by an imperial power, but was made by the people themselves, through representatives in a Constituent Assembly.

The Preamble of the Indian Constitution is not enforceable in a court of law. It states the objects which the Constitution seeks to establish.

The Indian Constitution endows the Judiciary with power of declaring a law as unconstitutional if it is beyond the competence of the Legislature according to the distribution of powers provided by the Constitution, or if it is in contravention of the fundamental rights or of any other mandatory provision, e.g. Articles 286, 299, 301 and 304.

As part of the integration of various Indian States into the Dominion of India a three-fold process of integration, known as the Patel Scheme, was implemented.

(i) 216 States were merged into the respective Provinces, geographically contiguous to them. These merged States were included in the territories of the States in Part B in the First Schedule of the Constitution. The process of merger started with the merger of Orissa and Chattisgarh States with the then province of Orissa, on January 1, 1948. The last instance was merger of Cooch-Behar with West Bengal in January 1950.

(ii) 61 States were converted into Centrally-administered areas and included in Part C of the First Schedule.

(iii) The third form was consolidation of groups of States into new viable units, known as Union of States. The first Union formed was the Saurashtra Union on February 15, 1948. The last one was Union of Travancore-Cochin on July 1, 1949. As many as 275 States were integrated into five Unions—Madhya Bharat, Patiala and East Punjab States Union, Rajasthan, Saurashtra and Travancore-Cochin. These were included in Part B of the First Schedule. Besides, Hyderabad, J&K and Mysore were also included in Part B.

At the time of accession to the Dominion of India, the States had acceded only on three subjects (Defence, Foreign Affairs and Communications). Later, revised Instruments of Accession were signed by which all States acceded in respect of all matters included in Union and Concurrent Lists, except only those relating to taxation.

The process of integration culminated in the Constitution (7th Amendment) Act, 1956, which abolished Part B States as a class and included all the States in Part A and B in one list.

# Geography Notes - 1

**Acid precipitation (Acid Rainfall):** is now regarded as a serious problem in some European and Asian countries, the main cause and source of which is emissions of sulphur oxides and nitrogen oxides from thermal power plants and burning of fossil fuels. These oxides dissolve in atmospheric water vapour and fall back on earth as acid rainfall. Acid rainfall can cause destruction of crops and trees; destruction of fish; and damage to buildings.

**Agronomy:** Soil management and production of field crops is known as Agronomy.

**Aleurone layer:** is that part of the grain in cereals where much of the protein lies.

**Alluvial soil:** is the richest and most fertile soil of India spread over large areas in northern plains of India.

**Arakan Yoma:** is the extension of the Himalayas located in Myanmar.

**Asthamudi Lake:** is located in Kerala State.

**Bailadila:** in Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh, is known for its wealth of Manganese.

**Barhara (Tribes):** The Barhara tribes mentioned in the Mahabharata who had settled in the north-western regions of India, are associated with—(1) Ambashthas (a mixed Mongolian Aryan race); (2) Gandharas (Afghans); (3) Pavas.

**Bhabhar region:** in south of the Shivaliks, is an example of Piedmont situation i.e., belonging to or related to the foot of a mountain.

**Bushmen (Tribes):** They live in the Kalahari desert. They are probably the descendants of the earliest inhabitants of Africa. They rank among the most uncivilized and backward peoples in the world. Their food consists almost entirely of meat, often raw or decomposed, and in times of scarcity they will eat insects, snakes etc.

**Cardamom:** Karnataka is the largest producer of cardamom. India is the largest exporter of cardamom in the world.

**Chinook:** Warm, dry wind experienced along the eastern side of the Rocky Mountains in Canada and the U.S.A.

**Climograph:** is a graphical representation of the differentiation between various types of climate. It reveals the type of climate at a glance—a climograph showing wet bulb temperatures and relative humidities which are high, for instance, depicts a constantly hot damp climate.

**Coastline of India, Length of:** The length of India's coastline is 7,516 km and its territory includes 1,256 islands. Tamil Nadu has the longest coastline in India.

**Cosmic year:** One cosmic year is equal to the time taken by the sun to complete one orbit around the galactic centre.

**Cotopaxi:** is the highest volcano in the world. It is situated in Ecuador.

**Date Line, International:** International Date Line is an internationally agreed line drawn parallel to the 180° meridian. It divides the Pacific Ocean into two equal parts. A crossing of the International Date Line entails repeating one day when travelling westwards.

**Detroit of India:** Pithampur in Madhya Pradesh, where a large number of automobile industries have been set up, is called the "Detroit of India".

**Doldrums Belt:** is a zone of the tropics where the calm lasting for some weeks prevails, broken at times by erratic squalls and baffling winds. It is an area of low pressure. The wind system in the Equatorial areas is known as doldrums.

**Dust Devil:** is a dusty whirlwind normally a few feet in diameter and about 100 feet tall, sometimes also wider

and higher.

**Earth mass:** The mass of the earth is about 81 times that of the moon.

**Earth's core:** is mainly composed of iron and nickel. Lithosphere is the innermost layer of the earth.

**El Nino:** is the weather phenomenon brewing in the tropical Pacific Ocean. It is the largest climate event of the 20th century setting off more global disasters than ever before. El Nino is warming of the waters off Equatorial South America which causes climate abnormalities around the world. The impact can be flooding drought in California, Brazil, Africa and Australia, severe storms in the Central Pacific and a decline in hurricanes hitting the south-eastern United States.

**Exfoliation:** This type of weathering is common both in the cold as well as in the hot climate regions.

**Fertilizer plant, First:** The first fertilizer plant in India was set up at Sindri (Bihar).

**Garo (Tribes):** Garos are the tribe of Garo Hills in Meghalaya.

**Glacial lake—example in India:** Dal Lake in Srinagar.

**Great Circle:** A circle on the earth's surface whose plane passes through its centre, and bisects it into two hemispheres. Two opposing meridians together form a Great Circle. The shortest distance between any two points on the earth's surface is the arc of the Great Circle which passes through them. 0° latitude forms a Great Circle. (The latitude or longitude 75°W should be combined with 75°E to obtain the Great Circle).

**Horse Latitudes:** Sub-tropical belts of high atmospheric pressure over the oceans situated in both hemispheres. These are called Belts of Calm between regions of the Trade Winds and Westerlies of higher latitudes.

**Hydroponics:** means cultivation of the plants without use of soil.

**Hyetology:** is the study of rainfall.

**Indira Point:** in Andaman and Nicobar Islands is the southern-most tip of India.

**Irrigated area, Indian State having largest:** The Indian State with the largest irrigated area is Uttar Pradesh.

**Jhum:** It is a slash and burn method of shifting cultivation (called jhum) practised on rainfall-bed slopes of forest hills and dales in Arunachal Pradesh.

**Kandla:** is a sea port situated at the head of the Gulf of Kuch in Gujarat State. It was the first port to be developed after independence. It has a free trade zone.

**Khonds (Tribes):** were primitive tribes living in Orissa.

**Kikuyu (Tribes) :** are a race of Bantu negroes who live to the north of Mount Kenya. These people combine agriculture with pastoralism.

**Kirghiz (Tribes):** of Central Asia are an example of people adapted to a grassland environment. The Kirghiz are pastoral nomads who move from pasture to pasture with the flocks and herds of horses, camels, oxen, sheep and goats. Meat forms only a small portion of their food. The Kirghiz are fearless horsemen, and even their children are expert riders

**Lambadies (Tribes):** are concentrated in Karnataka.

**Lapse Rate:** is the rate of change in temperature with increase of altitude.

**Laterite soils:** Laterite soils are formed by the weathering of laterite rocks. These can be distinguished from other soils by their acidity. Laterite soils are generally poor on the higher levels and cannot retain moisture. In the plains, however, they consist of heavy loams and clay and can retain moisture. Laterite soils occur in Madhya Pradesh, Assam and along the eastern and western Ghats. Tea plantation require acidity which is there in the laterite soil. It is, therefore, common in these areas.

**Loams (loamy soil):** A mixture of sand, clay and silt is known as loamy soil. Loams are formed where the soils have equal proportion of sand, silt and clay.

**Local winds and their areas:** Khamsin—Egypt; Zonda—Argentina; Santa Ana—California; Simoon—Iran.

**Lushais (Tribes):** are tribes of Mizoram.

**Mansarover Lake:** is in Tibet. Near it, the rivers having their source are the Brahmaputra, the Sutlej and the Indus.

**Maoris (Tribes):** are the original inhabitants of New Zealand.

**Masai (Tribes):** of the East African plateau are the example of pastoral peoples. They are a tall, strong, warlike race, partly negroid in type. They treat their cattle with great respect and affection and do not kill them for food or for sale as meat.

**Monsoon in India:** is related to differential heating and cooling of the huge landmass of Asia and the Indian Ocean and the origin of cyclones in the Bay of Bengal. The term Monsoon was introduced by the Arabs.

**Munda (Tribes):** are mostly located in Madhya Pradesh.

**Negritos (Tribes):** are the ancient tribes of Andamans.

**Nutrification:** is the process of conversion by action of bacteria, of nitrates in the soil.

**Onges:** are tribes of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

**Oraon (Tribes):** are aboriginal people of the Chhota Nagpur region in the State of Bihar. They call themselves Kurukh and speak a Dravidian language.

**Pangong Tso:** is one of the world's highest and brackish lakes in Jammu & Kashmir.

**Pressure zones on earth:** are created due to differential heating of the earth's surface by the sun.

**Proxima Centauri:** is a star nearest to the earth.

**Rare earths (Or Lignite and Monazite) :** are found on the beaches of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Monazite is an ore of thorium.

**Roaring Forties:** are westerly winds.

**Saddle peak:** is the highest peak of Andaman and Nicobar islands, located in Great Nicobar.

**Savannas:** are found between latitudes 5° and 20° North and South of Equator. These are tropical grasslands bordering the equatorial forests in each hemisphere. The Llanos and Pampas of South America are chief examples of Savannas but extensive Savannas are in Africa. Savanna grasslands are also found in Australia. The three-tier growth of vegetation is found in these regions. *The natural vegetation of Savannas consists of tall grass.*

**Selvas:** The rain forest of Amazon basin is called Selvas. These are rainy tropical forests..

**Semangs (Tribes):** are tribal people living in Malaysia.

**Spring Tides:** are caused when the sun and the moon are in a straight line. The tide on its maximum height is known as Spring Tide.

**Taiga Belt:** lies between the Tibet-type climate and the Tundras.

**Telegu Ganga Project:** in Tamil Nadu envisages optimal use of surplus water of the Krishna river. It is a joint venture of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

**Time Zone:** A zone on the terrestrial globe that is 15° longitude wide and extends from pole to pole and within which a uniform clock time is used. Time zones are the functional basis of standard time. The world is divided into 24 time zones.

**Tsunamis:** are huge sea waves caused by earthquakes.

**Willy Willy:** is a tropical cyclone of the north-west Australia.

# Notes on IT Questions

The earlier computers, which were massive in size, were based on vacuum tubes.

Early computing machines, like the ENIAC, were actually meant to assist the armed forces.

The printers in pre-1950s were punch cards.

An improvement on the ENIAC, which pioneered 'stored program', was made possible with the help of the mathematician John von Neumann.

Before the 1950s, computers were mostly owned by universities and research labs.

The B-programming language was developed by Ken Thompson.

Famous people, associated with the ENIAC, EDVAC, UNIVAC computers are Eckert & Mauchly.

The 1st commercially produced and sold computer (1951) was UNIVAC.

IBM was provided software for PCs by Microsoft.

Time-sharing, teletyping, were associated with mainframe computers.

The transformation from heavy computers to PCs was made possible using microprocessors.

The first microprocessor was developed in 1971 by Intel.

The term 'micro' (extremely small) denotes  $10^{-6}$  m.

The Harvard student, who chose to write computer programs and dropped studies was Bill Gates.

A pentium 4 (P-4) employs roughly 40 million transistors.

Mark-1, Apple-1, and colossus were initial desktop computers.

Binary digits are briefed as bit.

A collection of bits is called byte.

C++, is a computer language.

The process of eliminating programming faults is called debugging.

Starting up on operating system is called booting.

A program used to browse the web is called browser.

An error in software designing which can even cause a computer to crash is called bug.

Click and double-click are achieved using the mouse.

Java, C, ForTran, Pascal and BASIC are computer programming languages.

The device which sends computer data using a phone line is called MODEM.

‘Worm’ and ‘virus’ are actually programs.

A ‘file’ is a unit of information.

A megabyte has 106 (million) bytes.

A small, single-site network is called LAN.

A processor that collects several data and sends them over a single line is called bridge.

‘Nano’ stands for one billionth part.

The number of bit patterns using an n-bit code is  $2^n$ .

The part of a computer that works with the data/programs is called CPU.

To convert a binary number to a decimal, we have to express it in power of 2.

www stands for world wide web.

Mathematics employed in computers is called Boolean algebra.

A collection of 8 bits is called byte.

The first home computer (1977), which was sold in millions of units, was Apple II.

‘PARAM’ is a supercomputer.

A website containing periodic posts is called blog.

While cutting and pasting, the cut item is temporarily stored in the clipboard.



http stands for hypertext transfer protocol.

The unwanted or non-requested e-mails are called “spam”.

A computer framed to give various network services is called server.

## Indian History & Culture

No.	Question	Answer
01	Alexander invaded India in	326 BC
02	The Mauryan Empire was established in	322 BC
03	The First Mughal Emperor of India was	Babur
04	Taj Mahal was built by	Shahjahan
05	Lala Lajpat Rai was also known as	Lion of Punjab
06	Chandragupta II was also known as	Vikramaditya
07	The city of Fatehpur Sikri was built by	Akbar
08	The Red Fort in Delhi was built by	Shahjahan
09	Battle of Panipat was fought in	1761 AD
10	The first President of India was	Dr.Rajendra Prasad
11	"Swaraj is my birthright!" was said by	Bal Gangadhar Tilak
12	The capital of Mysore during the rule of Tipu Sultan was	Srirangapatnam
13	Battle of Plassey was fought in	1757 AD
14	The first Governor-General of Bengal under the East India Company was	Warren Hastings
15	Ashoka was born in	269 BC
16	Permanent settlement in Bengal was introduced by	Lord Cornwallis
17	The last Governor-General of India was	C.Raja Gopalachari
18	The first session of the Indian National Congress was held at	Bombay (Mumbai)
19	Quit India Movement started in the year	1942 AD
20	Sir Thomas Roe,English Ambassador, visited India during the reign of	Jahangir
21	In the battle of Plassey, Lord Clive defeated	Siraj-ud-Daula
22	The city of Calcutta was founded in	1690 AD
23	The capital of king Vikramaditya's kingdom was	Ujjain
24	The first Viceroy of India was	Lord Canning
25	The name of the famous horse of Rana Pratap was	Chetak
26	The Grand Trunk road was built during the reign of	Shersa Suri
27	Tipu Sultan was born in	1750 AD
28	Home Rule Movement was started by	Annie Besant
29	Shivaji was crowned in	1664 AD
30	East India Company was established in the year	1600 AD
31	The capital city of ancient India was	Indraprastha
32	The first woman ruler in India was	Razia Begum
33	The capital of the Mauryan was	Patliputra
34	The construction of Qutb Minar in Delhi was completed by	Ala-ud-din
35	Din-i-Ilahi was founded by	Akbar
36	Rabindranath tagore was born in	1861 AD
37	The most famous king of Vijayanagar Empire was	Krishnadevaraya
38	Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan was also known as	Frontier Gandhi
39	Samudra Gupta is popularly known as	Napolean of India
40	The first Tamil hero who fought against the British was	Veerapandya Kattabomman
41	Akbar's tomb is situated at	Sikandrabad
42	Gautama Buddha was the son of	Shuddhodan
43	Shivaji's mother was	Jeejabai
44	Gandhiji's mother was	Puthali Bai
45	The political teacher of shivaji was	Dadoji Konddev
46	Timur invaded India in the year	1398 AD
47	Mahmud Ghazni was the son of	Sabaktegen

48 The city of Ahmedabad was established by Ahmed Shah I  
 49 Rani padmini was Queen of Rana Ratna simha,the king of Chittoor  
 50 The real name of Babar was Zahiruddin Muhammed  
 51 The meaning of the word "Babar" is Tiger  
 52 Vijayasthamba is located at Chittoor Fort  
 53 Timur was the ruler of Samarkhand,Central Asia  
 54 The Indian social reformer who fought for the abolition of Sati was Rajaram Mohan Roy  
 55 The first British Governor General of free India was Lord Mountbatten  
 56 Dadabhai Naoroji was associated with the theory of "Drain of Wealth"  
 57 The kingdom of South India well known for its Naval power was The Cholas  
 58 Aligarh Muslim University was founded by Sir Syed Ahmed Khan  
 59 The first Indian ruler who prohibited Sati was Akbar  
 60 The Mughal ruler who was to recruit Rajput nobles in his administration was Akbar  
 61 The reforms announced by the British Govt.in 1909 are known as The Morle-Minto Reforms  
 62 The architect who designed the capital City of New Delhi was E.L.Lutyens  
 63 At the time of independence, the number of princely states in India were 552  
 64 The Indian Prime Minister known as "Man of Peace" was Lal Bahadur Shastri  
 65 The Indian king who fought the last Anglo-Mysore War against the English was Tipu Sultan  
 66 Kohinoor Diamond was taken away by Nadir Shah  
 67 The full name of Shahjehan was Khurram Shihabuddin Mohammed Shahjehan  
 68 The Bardoli satyagraha was started by Mahatma Gandhi  
 69 The founder of Arya Samaj was Swamy Dayanand Saraswati  
 70 The Governor General who abolished Sati was Lord William Bentinck  
 71 Bihar was earlier known as Magadha  
 72 Agra was earlier known as Akbarabad  
 73 "Harsha Charit" was written by Banabatta  
 74 Chandragupta Maurya spent the last days of his life at Sravanabelagola  
 75 Jalianwala Bagh Massacre took place at Amritsar  
 76 Vijayanagar kingdom was situated on the banks of river Tungabhadra  
 77 In 1498,the sea route to india was discovered by Vasco-da-gama  
 78 King Bhoja was from the which dynasty Pratihara  
 79 The period 1206 Ad to 1526 AD is known as The Delhi Sultanate  
 80 Agra city was founded by Sikandar Lodhi  
 81 Vijaynagar Empire was founded by Harihara and Bukka  
 82 The Vijayanagar kings fought frequent wars with the Bahamani Sultans  
 83 The last king of the Vijayanagar empire was Rama Raya  
 84 Shankaracharya was associated with which movement Bhakti  
 85 Ramanuja preached the philosophy of Vishishtadvaita  
 86 The followers of Ramanuja are known as Vaishnavas  
 87 Kabir was the disciple of Ramanand  
 88 The founder of Sikh religion was Guru Nanak  
 89 Babar defeated Ibrahim Lodhi in the year 1526 AD  
 90 Babar died in the year 1530 AD  
 91 Humayun was defeated by Sher Shah Suri  
 92 Humayun died at the age of 48 years  
 93 Akbar was crowned in the year 1556 AD  
 94 In the second battle of Panipat, Akbar defeated Himu  
 95 Akbar died in the year 1605 Ad  
 96 The original name of Nurjahan was Mehrunisa  
 97 Jehangir was known for his Justice

- 98 Jehangir died in the year 1627 AD
- 99 Aurangzeb was the son of Shahjehan
- 100 Aurangzeb died in the year 1707 AD
- 101 The first Guru of the sikhs was Guru Nanak Dev
- 102 The tenth Guru of the sikhs was Guru Gobind Singh
- 103 Amritsar was founded by Guru Ram Das
- 104 The Golden Temple was built by Guru Arjan Dev
- 105 The Akal Takht was built by Guru Hargobind
- 106 Guru Gobind Singh was born in 1666 AD
- 107 The 'Khalsa' at Anandpur Sahib was founded by Guru Gobind Singh
- 108 Maharaja Ranjit Singh was born in 1780 AD
- 109 Bahadur Shah Zafar died in the year 1862 AD
- 110 Shivaji died at age of 50 years
- 111 In the year 1798, who was appointed as the Governor-General Wellesley
- 112 Wellesley started the policy of Subsidiary Alliance
- 113 Dalhousie became the Governor-General in 1848 AD
- 114 The first war of Indian Independence fought in 1857 is also known as The Sepoy Mutiny
- 115 The Lady ruler who participated in the 1857 Revolt was Rani Laxmi Bai of Jhansi
- 116 The Indian Association was formed in 1876 at Calcutta
- 117 The Indian National Congress was formed in 1885 AD
- 118 The Rowlatt Act was passed in the year 1919 AD
- 119 The Jalianwala Bagh Massacre took place in the year 1919 AD
- 120 The movement launched in 1920 is known as The Non-Co-operation Movement
- 121 The Simon Commission came to India in the year 1928 AD
- 122 Chandragupta Maurya was succeeded by Bindusara
- 123 Ashoka invaded Kalinga in the year 261 BC
- 124 Ashoka died in the year 232 BC
- 125 Ashoka ruled for a period of 40 years
- 126 The last king of Maurya dynasty was Brihadratha
- 127 Chandragupta was succeeded by Samudragupta
- 128 The Iron Pillar near Qutb Minar was erected by Chandragupta II
- 129 Fahien, a Chinese traveller visited India during the reign of Chandragupta II
- 130 Harshavardhana ascended the throne at the age of 16 years
- 131 Harshavardhana was defeated by Pulakeshin II
- 132 The Chinese traveller who visited India during the reign of Harshavardhana was Hieun Tsang
- 133 Akbar was succeeded by Jehangir
- 134 Jehangir was succeeded by Shahjehan
- 135 In ancient times this river was called Shatadru. How do we know it now? Sutlej.
- 136 In the Rigveda there is a reference to the "Dasharajna Yuddha". What does this refer to? It was a battle of 10 kings fought between Sudasa, a king of the Tritsu family on one side, and a confederacy of 10 tribes on the other. It was fought on the banks of the Parushni (Ravi). Sudasa defeated his enemies in this battle.
- 137 Who was the ruler of the territory between the Jhelum and the Ravi when Alexander invaded India? Paurava or Porus as the Greeks called him.
- 138 When Porus surrendered to Alexander, Alexander asked him how he wished to be treated. What was Porus' reply? "As one King would treat another". This was his famous reply that has become a classic. Hearing this Alexander not only reinstated Porus on the throne, but he also added territories towards the east and domains of many republican states to the existing kingdom of Porus (according to Plutarch).
- 139 Who was Megasthenes? Megasthenes was the Greek ambassador to the Mauryan Court.
- 140 Who sent Megasthenes as his ambassador to the Mauryan Court? Seleucus Nikator.

- 141 Where did Seleucus Nikator rule? Babylon. He gradually extended his empire from the Mediterranean Sea to the Indus.
- 142 Whom did Chandragupta Maurya defeat to establish his kingdom? The Nanda dynasty of Magadha.
- 143 Who helped Chandragupta Maurya defeat the Nanda rulers? Kautilya also called Chanakya.
- 144 Of which territories was Ashoka the Viceroy before he became the king? Taksha-Shila and Ujjain.
- 145 "Beloved of the gods" and "of amiable appearance". Ashoka used these titles in his inscriptions. Can you give the original titles? "Devanampiya" and "Piyadassi" (Devanampriya and Priyadarshin).
- 146 What was unique about the personal bodyguards of the Maurya rulers? They were women.
- 147 Who was the last Maurya King? Brihadratha.
- 148 Who overthrew Brihadratha? Pushyamitra, who was his Commander-in-chief.
- 149 What was the name of the dynasty that succeeded Mauryan dynasty? The Shunga dynasty. (Pushyamitra founded this dynasty after he overthrew the Mauryan ruler)
- 150 From which source have historians got some details of the overthrow of the Mauryan dynasty? Bana's Harshacharita written almost eight centuries after the event.
- 151 The Allahabad Pillar inscription is the most authentic record about the reign of a famous Emperor. Identify that Emperor. Samudra Gupta
- 152 The Hindu kingdom of Champa flourished outside the present boundaries of India. Where would the kingdom be located in today's context? Vietnam. During this period, the country was considered a great centre of Vedic education.
- 153 What is Theravada in the context of Buddhism? It is a major form of Buddhism prevalent in Sri Lanka, Burma, Cambodia, Laos and Thailand.
- 154 Where is Angkor Vat located? It is located in the ancient kingdom of Kambuja (modern Cambodia). It means Temple (Vat) of the city (Angkor).
- 155 Who constructed Angkor Vat? Suryavarman II.
- 156 To whom is Angkor Vat dedicated? Vishnu.
- 157 Who wrote Uttara-Rama-Charitam? Bhavabhuti.
- 158 What is the Gandhara art also known as? Indo-Greek. The Gandhara sculptures drew their inspiration from the Hellenic (Greek) art of Asia Minor.
- 159 After whom have the rock-cut temples at Mahabalipuram in Tamil Nadu been named? The five Pandavas and Draupadi.
- 160 To which dynasty did Gautamiputra Shatakarni belong? Shatavahanas.
- 161 Who founded the Shatavahana dynasty? The founder of the family was Simuka but it was Shatakarni I who raised it to eminence.
- 162 Who wrote the Buddha Charita? Ashvaghosha.
- 163 To which dynasty did Kanishka belong? The Kushana dynasty
- 164 On the banks of which river did Harappa lie? Ravi. Mohenjodaro was on the bank of the Sindhu (Indus.)
- 165 Name the trading station of the Indus Valley Civilisation. Lothal.
- 166 The 'Sapta Sindhu' was the area of the initial Aryan settlement. To what region did it refer? The land of the Sindhu (Indus) and its principal tributaries.
- 167 Which is the crime that is most often mentioned in the Rjgveda? Cattle-lifting.
- 168 What does the word 'Sangam' refer to in Tamil History? It is the literary assembly of Tamil scholars held at Madurai under the patronage of the Pandyan Kings.
- 169 Which great Chola Emperor started the tradition of installing epigraphs with historical introductions? Rajaraja Chola.
- 170 Nalanda and Vikramshila were very famous in ancient India. What was the reason for their fame? These were the centres where the famous Buddhist Universities flourished.
- 171 What were Nalanda, Vikramshila in reality? Buddhist monasteries. They later took on the shape of universities.

- 172 What does the term Bhagavata relate to? CC.
- 173 Greek sources refer to him as Sandrocottus (Androcottus). How do we know him? Chandragupta Maurya.
- 174 What does the term 'dwija' mean? 'Dwija' describes those who wear the sacred thread after Upanayanam. Literally 'Dwija' means twice-born.
- 175 What was the reason for the importance of Kaveripattanam during the Sangam period? It was among the chief ports of the Tamil countries that carried on trade with the Romans.
- 176 What was the intoxicating drink that was consumed by the Rig Vedic Aryans during religious ceremonies? Soma.
- 177 How do we better know "Sakyamuni" (Shakyamuni)? Buddha.
- 178 Who was the twenty-fourth and the last Tirthankara of the Jains? Vardhamana Mahavira
- 179 On the basis of the Dhamma that Ashoka propagated, what is "Shusrusha"? Shusrusha meant obedience to father, mother, teacher and men of high caste.
- 180 What is the literal meaning of Mohenjodaro? Mound of the dead.
- 181 What is a Stupa? It is a kind of tomb where the relics of Buddha or other Buddhist monks are kept.
- 182 What were the four sights which Gautam saw, while being driven around the city? An old man, a sick man, a corpse and an ascetic.
- 183 Who was the chief deity of the Sangam Period? Murugan (Karttikeya)
- 184 Which Gupta ruler is also known as 'Kavi Raja'? Samudragupta.
- 185 Samudragupta is represented on coins as playing a particular musical instrument. Which musical instrument is that? Veena.
- 186 What is common to the following: Kumarasambhava, Ritusamhara, Raghuvarsham and Meghdootam? They are all works of Kalidasa.
- 187 What was the name of Harsha's sister? Rajyashri
- 188 What was the title assumed by Harsha when he ascended the throne? Shiladitya
- 189 Whom did Harsha succeed? His elder brother, Rajyavardhana.
- 190 Mahendra, the son of Ashoka, was sent as a Buddhist missionary to a particular kingdom. Identify the kingdom. Sri Lanka
- 191 In ancient times, who were the foreigners who were called Yavanas? The Greeks. The word was derived from the Old Persian form of the word 'Yauna', signifying originally the Ionian Greeks, but later, all people of Greek nationality. In the medieval times it came to be used for all foreigners irrespective of their place of origin.
- 192 What was Sumatra called as, in ancient times? Suvarnavipa.
- 193 Who systematised the rules of Sanskrit grammar (4 Century BC) in the work Ashtadhyayi? Panini.
- 194 One of the chief sources of revenue from villages mentioned in the Ashokan inscriptions is the "Bhaga". What is it? Bhaga: King's share of the produce of the soil, usually 1/6th. The other source of revenue was the Bali. The Bali was the land tribute paid to the King.
- 195 In the Mauryan times if someone were referring to the Karshapana, what would he be talking about? The Karshapana was a copper coin that was in use during the Mauryan times. Dharana was a Silver coin and the Kakani were smaller copper coins.
- 196 Where is Gandhara art found? The ruins of Taksha-shila, in modern Pakistan and Afghanistan.
- 197 What were the Jains originally called? Nirgrantha.
- 198 In Jainism a small group of people were called Ganadharas. Who were they? The close disciples of Mahavira were called Ganadharas.
- 199 For a while, Bhagavatism and Brahmanism were separate sects. How did the two merge into one? When Krishna, the main deity of Bhagavatism, began to be identified with Vishnu, the main deity of Brahmanism, the two sects merged into one.
- 200 What is the importance of the Khyber and Bolan passes in Indian history? The land route between India and West Asia lies through these passes.



- 201 Which city in ancient India was famous for its textile industry? Mathura
- 202 What is Stridhana? It is the exclusive property of a married lady, something she often inherits from her mother.
- 203 According to the Arthashastra the Senapati was an important member of the Mantri Parishad. What was his role? Commander-in-Chief of the army.
- 204 Jyotisha is one of the Vedangas. What does it deal with? Astronomy and astrology
- 205 Two popular assemblies used to control the affairs of the Vedic kingdoms. Name them. Sabha: - Body of the elders. Constituted of Brahmins and rich patrons.
- Samiti: - An assembly of common people. Meant for the discharge of administration.
- 206 Who or what are the 'Uttariya' and 'Antariya'? In ancient India, antariya (dhoti) a lower garment was worn by all common people. Uttariya was the garment that covered the upper part of the body. In addition to these the well-to-do people wore Prapata around the waist. Around the prapata, the rich wore Rasana, usually of gold. Ushneesha was used to cover the head and Stanapatta was worn to cover the breasts.
- 207 Who built the rock-cut temples at Ellora? The Rashtrakuta king, Krishna I.
- 208 In the context of Buddhism, what is Vinaya Pitaka? It is the work that deals with the governance of the life of Buddhists. It also describes the gradual development of the Sangha and the life and teachings of Buddha.
- 209 What is contained in the Sutta Pitaka? Sutta Pitaka incorporates the greatest literary works of Buddhism. Of the five collections, the first four consist of discourses of Buddha.
- 210 Patanjali's Mahabhashya refers to some of the stories about Krishna's early life. Who does Patanjali call Samkarshana? Balarama.
- 211 With which modern township would you identify the ancient port of Suppara (also known as Surparaka)? Nala Sopara an extended suburb of modern Mumbai.
- 212 What was the basis of barter for common articles during the Vedic period? Paddy.
- 213 In which script were a majority of the Ashoka inscriptions written? Brahmi. Brahmi script was used in the whole of the country, except the northwest.
- 214 What script did Ashoka use in the inscriptions of the Northwest of India? Kharoshti script.
- 215 The Jaina texts were finally compiled in the sixth century A.D. in Vallabhi in Gujarat. In which language were they written? Prakrit.
- 216 Who wrote the Arthashastra? Kautilya.
- 217 Which is a very important source of information for the social, political and economic life of the people living in the Tamil Naidu area in the early Christian era? Sangam literature.
- 218 Who is the author of the Greek work "Indika"? Megasthenes. This book, however, is not available to us in its entirety and survives only in quotations by subsequent classical writers.
- 219 When did the Vikram Samvat begin in India? It began in 57 B.C.
- 220 Over which part of present-day India did the Pala dynasty rule? Bengal.
- 221 When did the Shaka era begin in India? 78A.D.
- 222 Who started the Shaka era? Kanishka of the Kushana dynasty.
- 223 When did the Gupta era begin in India? In 320 A.D., after Chandragupta of the Gupta dynasty.
- 224 Over which kingdom did Kharavela rule? Kalinga.
- 225 According to Buddhist sources, a dreaded dacoit had a transformation of heart and took refuge in Buddha's Dhamma. Who was he? Angulimala.
- 226 An accomplished and rich dancer gave away her mango-grove to the Sangha of Buddha and became his disciple. Name her. Amrapali.
- 227 Why was the Indus Valley Civilisation originally called the Harappan Civilisation? It was so called because the first site of this civilization was discovered (in 1921) at the modern site of Harappa, in present day Pakistan.
- 228 What was the basis of the town planning of the people of the Indus Valley Civilisation? It was the Grid System. In the format that they used all roads cut across each other almost at right angles. This led to the city being divided into blocks.



- 229 What was the most important public place in Mohenjodaro? It was the Great Bath. It was probably used for ritual bathing.
- 230 What religion did Kharavela patronise? Jainism.
- 231 The Greeks called cotton "Sindon". There is a reason behind this name. What is it? The people of the Indus Valley Civilisation were the first to produce cotton and therefore the Greeks called it Sindon. This word is derived from the name Sindh.
- 232 Karikala Chola founded a famous city. What was it? Puhar. Identified with Kaveripatnam the Chola capital.
- 233 To which Age does the Indus Valley Civilisation belong? The Bronze Age. Iron was not known to them.
- 234 What is the birthplace of Shankaracharya? Kaladi. Shankaracharya was a famous exponent of the Advaita philosophy. Advaita literally means not two. Advaita believes in an eternal being and holds that the plurality is nothing but illusion.
- 235 How many books or Mandalas does the Rig Veda contain? Ten.
- 236 Who introduced chariots drawn by horses into India? The Aryans
- 237 Who was born to Siddhartha and Trishala in the year 540 B.C.? Vardhamana Mahavira
- 238 According to the Arthashastra, the Purohita was an important member of the Mantri Parishad. What was his role? He was the High Priest.
- 239 In ancient India handicraftsmen were organised into economic corporations or guilds. What were these Guilds called? Shreni.
- 240 Who wrote Kadambari? Banabhatta.
- 241 At what age did Mahavira abandon the world and become an ascetic? At the age of 30 yrs.
- 242 Where and when did Mahavira pass away? In 468 B.C at Pavapuri, in modern Bihar.
- 243 Jainism was divided into two sects. Name them. Shvetambara: - Those clad in white. Digambara: - Those who are sky-clad (or are naked)
- 244 Where was Buddha born? Buddha was born in the royal grove in Lumbini near Kapilavastu.
- 245 Where did Buddha deliver his first sermon? At Sarnath.
- 246 What was the path to be followed to be free from misery according to Buddha? He recommended following the eight-fold path, (ashtanga magga)
- 247 Under whose rule did Magadha first attain prominence? Bimbisara. According to Ashwaghosha, Bimbisara belonged to the Haryanka dynasty.
- 248 Who was the Royal Physician at Bimbisara's court? Jivaka.
- 249 Which was the capital of the kingdom of Magadha before Pataliputra? Girivraja. Also called Rajagriha or Rajgir.
- 250 Who succeeded Bimbisara to the throne of Magadha? Ajatashatru.
- 251 Which dynasty succeeded the dynasty of Bimbisara? The Shishunagas. They conquered the kingdom of Avanti, and made it a part of the Magadhan empire.
- 252 Where was Pataliputra situated? It was situated at the confluence of the Gandak, the Son, and the Ganga. It is present-day Patna.
- 253 What were the reasons behind the refusal of the Greek soldiers to accompany Alexander beyond the Beas? They were war weary and home sick. The hot climate of India did not suit them. Having experienced the fighting abilities of the Indian people they were apprehensive about the power of the Nandas. All these reasons contributed to their refusal.
- 254 What theme does Vishakhadatta's play, Mudrarakshasa, deal with? The strategies adopted by Chanakya against the enemies of Chandragupta Maurya.
- 255 Which were the four divisions of the army in ancient India? Infantry, cavalry, elephants and chariots.
- 256 Why did Ashoka exempt the village of Lumbini from 'Bali' (tribute paid to the king)? Because this was the birthplace of Gautama Buddha.

- 257 Menander, also known as Milinda, was the most famous of the Indo-Greek kings. Where was his capital city? Sakala, modern Sialkot.
- 258 Who was the Buddhist monk who converted Menander into Buddhism? Nagasena or Nagarjuna.
- 259 What is the Milinda Panha? It is a book, which records the conversation between Nagarjuna and Menander. Milinda Panha literally means Questions by Milinda.
- 260 Who issued the first long inscription in chaste Sanskrit? Rudradaman, the famous Shaka ruler.
- 261 We know of two successive dynasties of the Kushanas. Who founded them? The first dynasty was founded by Kadphises I and the second by Kanishka.
- 262 The Shakas and the Kushanas completely identified themselves with Indian culture. What factors helped them in this? They did not have a script of their own nor did they have any organised religion.
- 263 What were the articles of clothing introduced in India by the Shakas and the Kushanas? Trousers, long coat, tunic and turban. The turban, however, is mentioned as a head dress in ancient India (Ushneesha)
- 264 How were the foreign elements like Shaka, Pahlava and the Kushanas assimilated into Indian society? Since they came as conquerors they were classified as Kshatriyas.
- 265 Buddhism was divided into two sects. What were they? Mahayana: - The Great wheel. Hinayana: - The Lesser wheel.
- 266 Name the two Buddhist centres located in present day Andhra Pradesh? Nagarjunakonda and Amaravati.
- 267 What was the contribution of the Greeks to Indian theatre techniques? The use of curtain was borrowed from the Greeks. The curtain was called "Yavanika".
- 268 Over which areas did the Shatavahana dynasty rule? The Deccan and Central India.
- 269 Over which area of India did Rashtrakutas rule? Northern Maharashtra.
- 270 Who were Gandhikas? Artisans who are mentioned as giving donations to the Buddhists. Originally Gandhika meant perfumes but was later used to describe shopkeepers. The name Gandhi is said to have been derived from it.
- 271 What was the Buddhist temple known as? Chaitya.
- 272 What was a Buddhist monastery known as? Vihara.
- 273 What were the main articles of trade of the Southern Kingdoms of the Cholas, the Cheras and the Pandyas? Spices especially pepper, ivory, pearls, muslin and silk.
- 274 Name two of the epics of the Sangam Age. Silappadikaram, Jivakachintamani and Manimekalai.
- 275 What was the Uttarapatha? It was the route that was used for trade. It ran from Taksha-shila to Broach on the Western coast.
- 276 Which empire rose on the remains of the Kushan Empire? The Gupta Empire.
- 277 Who were Lichchhavis? What are they known for? Lichchhavis ruled over a vast area from Magadha to Nepal. They were best known for the democracy they practised. It would not be correct to compare it with democracy as understood today. Some preferred to call it oligarchy.
- 278 Who wrote 'Hitopadesha'? Narayana Bhatta. Hitopadesha is a collection of stories, most of which were drawn from the Panchatantram of Vishnu Sharma.
- 279 Who is regarded as the first important King of the Gupta dynasty? Chandragupta I.
- 280 Which Gupta ruler adopted the title 'Vikramaditya'? Chandragupta II. He is regarded as the greatest of the Gupta rulers (376 to 414 AD).
- 281 Who was the Chinese pilgrim who visited India during the time of Chandragupta II? Fa-Hien.
- 282 Who was the first Gupta king to assume the title 'Rajadhiraja'? Chandragupta I. In addition to 'Rajadhiraja', Samudragupta assumed the titles 'Parambhattacharaka' and 'Paramabhagavata'.
- 283 What was the image on the royal seal of the Guptas? Garuda.
- 284 Who was the author of the play 'Mrichchhakatika'? Shudraka.
- 285 Which empire rose on the ruins of the empire of the Pallavas of Kanchi? The Chola Empire.
- 286 A ruling dynasty at Thanesar, (in modern Haryana), extended its authority over the feudatories of the Gupta Empire. Who was the ruler who achieved this? Harsha.

- 287 Which city did Harsha make his capital? Kanauj.
- 288 Who was the Chinese pilgrim who visited India during the time of Harsha? Hiuen Tsang.
- 289 Who was the ruler of South India who prevented Harsha from extending his kingdom southwards? The Chalukya King Pulakesin II.
- 290 What religion did Harsha follow during his early years? He was a devotee of Shiva.
- 291 Which religious sect did Harsha patronise in his later years? The Buddhist.
- 292 What are the Vedangas? The limbs of the Vedas. It was necessary to learn the Vedanga to understand the Vedas. The Vedangas were :
- Shiksha (phonetics)
  - Kalpa (rituals)
  - Vyakarana
  - Nirukta (etymology)
  - Chhanda (metrics)
  - Jyotisha (astronomy)
- 293 Who was reputed to be the author of the following books: Priyadarshika, Ratnavali and Nagananda? Harsha.
- 294 In which book would you find the famous Gayatri mantra? Rigveda.
- 295 In the Rigveda, a daughter is sometimes referred to as 'duhitr'. What is the literal translation of the word? One who milks the cow.
- 296 Who was the first person to hold that the earth was a sphere and rotated on its axis? Aryabhata. He also declared that the eclipses were not the work of Rahu but were caused by the shadow of the earth falling on the moon. Varahamihira and Brahmagupta later astronomers did not agree with his view. Aryabhata also gave an accurate approximation of  $\pi$ .
- 297 What is the 'Dharmachakrapravartana'? The preaching of the first sermon by Buddha.
- 298 Who was responsible for establishing the order of nuns in Buddhism? Ananda, the personal attendant of Buddha, was largely responsible for the admission of Gautami (the widowed stepmother of Buddha) into the Sangha. This was the beginning of the order of nuns.
- 299 Who deciphered the Asokan inscriptions? James Prinsep.
- 300 The word 'Aryan' originates from the Sanskrit word 'Arya'. What was the meaning of the word? Of good family.
- 301 What was the complaint of Pliny the elder, against India? He complained that India drained Roman wealth by selling luxury articles at high prices to Romans.
- 302 What was the name of the son of King of Takshashila who offered Alexander help in invading India? Ambhi. This was the first recorded instance of an Indian King turning traitor.
- 303 What was the name the Greeks used to refer to Ambhi? Omphis.
- 304 By which name do we know the ancient city of Prayag? Allahabad.
- 305 Of the five Siddhantas (Indian astronomical works) two are said to be of Western origin. Which? Romaka Siddhanta and Paulisa Siddhanta. This shows that Indian astronomy was considerably influenced by Western thoughts.
- 306 What is the modern name for the ancient city of Purushapura? Peshawar.
- 307 From which language is the word 'Sindoor' (vermilion) derived? Chinese. (From the Chinese word Tsin-sung.)
- 308 According to Chinese sources Kaundinya an Indian Prince, formed a kingdom in south East Asia. Where was this kingdom located? Cambodia.
- 309 Who was Buddha's personal physician? Jivaka. Jivaka was the personal physician of Bimbisara. During his visit to Buddha, Bimbisara offered the services of Jivaka, who became Buddha's personal physician.
- 310 Who were the Ajivikas? They were one of the prominent religious sects during the time of Mahavira and Buddha.
- 311 In Vedic times, who was referred to as a 'Grihapati'? The master of the house.
- 312 Which common seasoning ingredient of today finds no reference in the Rig Veda? Salt.

- 313 What was the name of the famous tract of land that lay between the Saraswati and the Drishadvati? Kurukshetra.
- 314 What was the Rajasuya sacrifice (yajna)? It was the yajna to mark the royal consecration. It included offerings to the gods in the houses of officials and a formal abhisheka by the priest. Other popular rites that followed were a cow-raid and a game of dice in which the king was made the Victor.
- 315 What was the Vishwajit sacrifice? In the Vishwajit sacrifice, the (yajamana) performer had to give away all that he possessed.
- 316 Who succeeded Chandra Gupta I? Samudragupta.
- 317 According to legend, who succeeded Samudragupta? His son Rama Gupta. He was a weak ruler who surrendered his wife to a Shaka tyrant. Her honour was saved by the younger brother of Rama Gupta, Chandra Gupta, who killed the Shaka ruler, replaced his brother on the throne and married Dhruvadevi.
- 318 Who succeeded Chandra Gupta II? His son Kumara Gupta, who ruled from AD 415 to 455.
- 319 Who or what were the Huns? They were a race of fierce, warlike people, whose original home was in the steppes of Central Asia. They spread terror and destruction both in the West (i.e. the Roman Empire) and India.
- 320 Which Gupta ruler successfully defended his empire against the invading Huns? Skanda Gupta.
- 321 Which Gupta ruler performed the Ashwamedha yajna? Samudra Gupta.
- 322 Into which group of people were the Huns assimilated by the Indian society? The Rajputs.
- 323 Which dynasty claimed its descent from Lakshmana, the brother of Shri Rama? The Pratiharas. By the ninth century the influence of Pratiharas extended from the Punjab to central India and from Kathiawar to north Bengal.
- 324 Who invented the decimal place value system? Aryabhata invented the decimal place value system. Scholars hold that it cannot be said with certainty that the system was invented by Aryabhata. It seems it was known to astronomers who came before him.
- 325 The Cholas extended their territory in South India and also conquered the northern part of Sri Lanka. Who was the ruler who made northern Sri Lanka a province of his empire? Rajaraja Chola.
- 326 Which part of India did the Arabs first conquer? Sindh. Mohammed Ibn-Kasim, the nephew and son-in-law of the governor of Iraq, defeated Dahir Sen in 712 A.D.
- 327 What are the four sources of Law according to the law giver, Manu? a. Sruti or the Vedas.  
b. Smriti (expanded version of the Dharma shastras). Smriti is also regarded as the only authentic source of Hindu Law and social customs,  
c. Customs of holy men  
d. One's own inclination.
- 328 By what name was the area of western and northwestern Bengal known? Gauda. The name was applied both to the people and their country.
- 329 Where in Maharashtra are frescoes that depict the Jataka Stories? At Ajanta, near Ellora caves.
- 330 What was the language used by the people of the Indus Valley Civilization? Historians have as yet not been able to determine the language used by the people of the Indus Valley Civilization. The script used by the people of the Indus Valley Civilization has also not been deciphered.
- 331 Which was the animal that was most engraved on Indus Valley Civilization seals? The Humpless Bull.
- 332 What was unique about the ascension to the throne by Gopala, the founder of the Pala dynasty in Gauda (present day West Bengal)? He was not a hereditary ruler, but was elected by the people to rule over them.
- 333 Which was the seat of power of the Pallava dynasty? Kanchipuram. The Pallavas founded the first great empire in south India. Under the Pallavas, Kanchi became a great centre of Brahminical and Buddhist learning.
- 334 Who was the Chola ruler who crossed the Ganga and defeated the rulers there? Rajendra Chola.
- 335 When did the first invasion of Mahmud of Ghazni take place? 1000 A.D.
- 336 Who was the first Indian ruler defeated by Mahmud of Ghazni? Jayapala of the Hindushahi dynasty.

- 337 Where is Ghazni? In modern Afghanistan.
- 338 Why were temples the main target of Mahmud of Ghazni? They had immense wealth stockpiled.
- 339 Who was the Arab traveller whose work on India is referred to as a mirror of 11<sup>th</sup> century India? Alberuni.
- 340 At whose request did Alberuni travel to India? Mahmud of Ghazni.
- 341 At which battle did Prithviraj Chauhan defeat Mohammed of Ghori? In the first Battle of Tarain in 1190-91.
- 342 Which medieval ruler is reputed to be an author of almost 20 books on subjects as diverse as medicine, architecture and astronomy? Raja Bhoja of the Paramara dynasty. The Paramara dynasty ruled over the Malwa region.
- 343 Identify the person who was in charge of Mohammad of Ghori's possessions in India. Qutbuddin Aibak.
- 344 To which deity was the temple of Somnath dedicated? Shiva.
- 345 Who wrote the Ramayana in Tamil? Kamban.
- 346 Who was the founder of the Slave dynasty? Qutbuddin Aibak.
- 347 Why is the term "Slave dynasty" an inaccurate term? Only three sultans (Qutbuddin Aibak, Iltutmish and Balban) were slaves, and later even they were released from slavery by their masters. They were slaves, but only in the early part of their lives.
- 348 Who was the only woman to ascend the throne of Delhi? Razia Sultana.
- 349 Which Persian historian accompanied Alauddin Khalji on his expedition to Chittor? Amir Khusrau.
- 350 The Choda Ganga dynasty of Orissa was responsible for the construction of some famous temples. Can you identify them? The Jagannath temple at Puri and the Sun Temple at Konark.
- 351 Name the king of Mewar who is said to have built thirty two forts during his reign? Rana Kumbha.
- 352 How did Rana Kumbha celebrate his victory over Mahmud Khalji of Malwa? He built the Tower of Victory in Chittor. It is called the Vijayastambha.
- 353 Who helped Humayun save himself after the Battle of Chausa? A water carrier helped Humayun cross the Ganga and to safety.
- 354 Over which kingdom did Chand Bibi rule? She ruled over Ahmadnagar as a Regent.
- 355 What articles of trade was the kingdom of Golconda known for? Diamonds and textiles.
- 356 Who founded the city of Hyderabad? Mohammad Quli Qutub Shah.
- 357 Who was the Qutub Minar dedicated to? The Sufi saint Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki and not Qutbuddin Aibak as people mistakenly assume.
- 358 In which language did Shankaradeva, a Bhakti Saint, propagate his views? Assamese.
- 359 In which language did Surdas sing? Brij.
- 360 Where is the famous Kamakhya temple (Kamakshi)? At Guwahati.
- 361 Which Mughal Emperor adopted the Zoroastrian practice of Navroz? Akbar.
- 362 Which were the provinces added by Aurangzeb to the Mughal Empire? Bijapur and Golconda.
- 363 Who took care of Shah Jahan when he was kept imprisoned by Aurangzeb? Jahanara, Shah Jahan's daughter.
- 364 Who installed a chain of bells outside his palace gate? Jahangir.
- 365 Why was the chain of bells installed? This was the "Chain of Justice" installed to ensure that all citizens of the country had access to justice.
- 366 During the reign of which Mughal Emperor was the peacock throne made? Shah Jahan.
- 367 Which place did Vasco da Gama reach when he found a new route to India? Calicut. Now known as Kozhikode.
- 368 What were the European Factories that are referred to in Indian history? Factories were nothing but fortified trading stations established by the European powers in India.
- 369 Where did the English set up their first factory? Surat.



- 370 Who was the Englishman who succeeded in getting a farman from the Mughals exempting the English from paying any inland toll? Sir Thomas Roe.
- 371 What prompted Jahangir to allow the English to set up a factory in Surat? The British defeated the Portuguese naval squadrons. Jahangir wanted to use the English as a counter against the growing Portuguese power.
- 372 What were the reasons why the British wanted to secure Bombay from the Portuguese? Those controlling Bombay controlled trade on the west coast. And there was no interference from either the Mughals or the Marathas on this sea.
- 373 Which city did Job Charnock establish? Colcutta.
- 374 Which Saint inspired the Marathas with ideals of social reform and national regeneration? Saint Samarth Ramdas.
- 375 Near which fort, acquired early in his career, did Shivaji build Raigarh? Torna.
- 376 Between 1649 and 1655 Shivaji suspended offensive operations against Bijapur. Why did he do so? His father had been arrested and was released only on the condition that Shivaji suspend his military activities.
- 377 Alauddin Khalji was the nephew and son-in-law of a Delhi Sultan whom he later murdered. Who was the sultan? Jalaluddin Firuz Khalji.
- 378 One of the more interesting causes for a battle fought in Indian history has been vividly described by Malik Muhammad Jayasi in his epic Padmavat. What, according to Malik Muhammad Jayasi was the cause of the battle? That Allaudin Khalji invaded Chittor because he was infatuated by Padmini, the queen of Rana Ratan Singh of Mewar.
- 379 Why did Muhammad-bin-Tughluq shift his capital from Delhi? He shifted his capital to Deogiri (Deogiri) because it held a central position in the empire and therefore, would be safe from Mongol invasions.
- 380 Who was the first Afghan to be seated on the throne of Delhi? Bahlul Khan Lodi (in April 1451).
- 381 Which kingdom came into existence during the reign of Muhammad bin Tughlaq? Bahmani kingdom.
- 382 Where is Babur buried? He is buried in Kabul.
- 383 Poems of which Kashmiri poet are the oldest of the ones still available with us? Lalla Didi (Lal Ded).
- 384 The ruler of Bihar conferred upon the young Farid a title. What was the title and why was it conferred upon him? Sher Khan, for killing a tiger single-handed.
- 385 What was the name assumed by Farid when he ascended the throne? Sher Shah.
- 386 Who were the opponents in the battle fought at Chausa? Humayun and Sher Shah.
- 387 How did Sher Shah die? Sher Shah died due to an accidental explosion of gunpowder while attempting to capture the fort Kalinjar in 1545.
- 388 Which ruler helped Humayun recover Kandahar and Kabul? The Ruler of Persia.
- 389 Who proclaimed Akbar the Emperor? Bairam Khan in 1556.
- 390 What words did Saint Ramanuja use to describe the scheduled castes? Tirukulattar (Belonging to the family of God).
- 391 At what age did Akbar ascend the throne? Thirteen years.
- 392 How did Humayun die? Humayun tumbled down the stairs of his library when he was responding to the call of muezzin for evening prayers.
- 393 What was the occupation of Himu (also spelt Hemu) before he rose to prominence in politics? He was a grocer.
- 394 Who fought the second battle of Panipat? Akbar and Himu.
- 395 Who wrote Lilavati, a treatise on Algebra? Bhaskaracharya.
- 396 What title did Himu adopt after he occupied Agra and Delhi by defeating its Mughal governor? Raja Vikramaditya
- 397 Who did Iltutmish nominate as his successor? His daughter Razia.

- 398 Himu, in the battle of Panipat, gained initial success against the Mughal forces. How did the tide turn in the favour of the Mughals? A chance arrow struck Himu in the eye rendering him unconscious. Deprived of his leadership his soldiers dispersed in confusion.
- 399 The Mughal forces defeated a Rajput ruler at the pass of Haldighat. Which ruler are we talking about? Rana Pratap.
- 400 Which work describes the romantic story of the marriage of Sanyogita the daughter of the Gahadavala king Jaichandra with Prithviraj Chauhan? Prithviraja Raso.
- 401 Marco Polo was a traveller (from Venice) who is very well known for his adventures. Which south Indian dynasty does he mention in his travelogues? The Kakatiya dynasty.
- 402 Timur or Tamerlane, a central Asian Turk (and an ancestor of Babur) invaded India and ransacked Delhi. Who was the ruler of Delhi at that time? Sultan Mahmud Shah.
- 403 Name the ruler of the Tughluq dynasty who was well versed in Astronomy, Mathematics and Medicine. Muhammad bin Tughluq.
- 404 A particular dance form gained prominence during the Vijayanagara period. What was the dance form? Yakshagana.
- 405 Who fought the battle of Talikota? The battle was fought between the Vijayanagara Empire and the combined forces of the Deccan Sultans. The Sultan of Berar however did not take part in this battle.
- 406 Who won the battle of Talikota? The Vijayanagara forces were comprehensively defeated and this eventually led to their downfall.
- 407 Where was the Battle of Talikota fought? It was fought in the area between the villages of Rakassi and Tangadi (Tagdi). Due to the bloodshed and ruin that this battle brought on the Vijayanagara Empire it was also called 'Raktakshi Tangadi'.
- 408 Who were the opponents at the battle of Khanua? Rana Sanga and Babur.
- 409 What was the name of Rana Pratap's horse? Chetak.
- 410 Who was the Jesuit missionary who held personal discussions with Akbar? Anthony Monserrate.
- 411 How do we better know Mihr-un-nisa in Indian history? NurJahan.
- 412 What was the title given to Mihr-un-nisa by Jahangir? Nur Mahal (the light of the Palace). The title was later changed to Nur Jahan (Light of the World).
- 413 Who was the Mughal queen whose name was written on all the imperial Mughal farmans of her time and inscribed on coins? Nur Jahan.
- 414 After Akbar secured victory in Gujarat he undertook an activity to commemorate this victory. What was that activity? He founded the city of Fatehpur Sikri.
- 415 By which name was Ramtanu Mishra known? Tansen. He was earlier in the employment of the Raja of Rewah.
- 416 Name the Mughal emperor who was an accomplished veena player. Aurangzeb
- 417 The Razmnama in Persian was a compilation by several scholars. Of which Hindu epic was this a translation? Mahabharata
- 418 Name Aurangzeb's daughter who wrote under the pen name Makhi and produced a collection of poems. Zebunnisa.
- 419 King Charles II of England married the Portuguese princess Catherine of Braganza. How did this event affect Indian history? The Portuguese transferred the islands that make up modern Mumbai to the British as the dowry of Catherine.
- 420 From whom did the Portuguese capture Goa? Sultan of Bijapur.
- 421 Who was the Portuguese Governor who captured Goa? Alfonso de Albuquerque.
- 422 What was Shivaji's council of ministers known as? The Ashla Pradhan Mandal.
- 423 Who were the opponents in the battle of Takkolam? Cholas and Pandyas. The Pandyas were completely defeated.
- 424 How do we better know the Kingdom of Pragjyotishpur? Assam.



- 425 Which dynasties rose on the ruins of the Chola dynasty? The Pandyas and the Hoysalas.
- 426 Who wrote the Telugu version of the Mahabharata? Nanniah. Though he began the work it was eventually completed by Tikkanna.
- 427 Who were the "Nayanars" in Tamil Nadu? They were devotees of Shiva who flourished between the sixth and ninth centuries.
- 428 Who were the "Alvars" in Tamil Nadu? They were the devotees of Vishnu.
- 429 Who fought the second battle of Tarain in 1192 A.D? Prithviraj Chauhan and Muhammad Ghori.
- 430 Before the battle of Tarain, Prithviraj Chauhan appealed for help from the rajas of North India. One prominent ruler refused any. Who was this ruler? Jaichandra of Kanauj.
- 431 What was the capital of the Bahmani kingdom? Gulbarga.
- 432 Who was the Turkish officer who conquered the area of north Bengal? BakhtiyarKhalji.
- 433 How did Qutbuddin Aibak die? He fell off his horse while playing chaugan (polo) and died due to the resultant injuries.
- 434 Who succeeded Qutbuddin Aibak to the throne of Delhi? Iltutmish (son-in-law of Qutbuddin Aibak).
- 435 What did Shivaji say when he got the news of the capture of Kondana? "Gadh aala pun Sinha gela" - We got the fort but lost the lion (referring to Tanaji Malsure).
- 436 What was the original name of the town Daulatabad? Deogiri (Devgiri).
- 437 For how long did Razia rule? About three and a half years.
- 438 How do we better know Ulugh Khan in Indian history? Balban.
- 439 What were the ceremonies introduced by Balban, merely to demonstrate his superiority to other nobles? Sijada-Prostration Paibos - Kissing the emperor's feet. He introduced these ceremonies to demonstrate his superiority over the nobles.
- 440 During whose rule did the Mongols make the first serious attempt to establish their rule over Delhi? Alauddin Khalji.
- 441 What is the region of Kamrup known in modern India? Assam.
- 442 Who were the sons of Shah Jahan? Dara Shikoh (also Shukoh), Shuja Murad and Aurangzeb.
- 443 During the reign of Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq, where was his son Muhammad Tughlaq posted? Deogir.
- 444 Who was the first sultan of Delhi to pay his soldiers in cash? Alauddin Khalji.
- 445 Which ruler introduced the concept of token currency in India? Muhammad Bin Tughlaq.
- 446 Harihara and Bukka rebelled against Muhammad Bin Tughlaq and founded a kingdom. What was it? The Vijayanagara Kingdom.
- 447 Whom did Shah Jahan choose, in his last will, as his heir apparent? Dara Shukoh.
- 448 During whose rule did jizyah become a separate tax? Firuz Tughlaq. It was a part of the land revenue in earlier times.
- 449 During the period of the Delhi Sultanate who was the most important official? TheWazir.
- 450 Who was commissioned by Akbar to write the history of his reign? AbulFazI.
- 451 What did India import from China (during the medieval period)? Porcelain, raw silk.
- 452 What is Jnaneshwari? The free rendering of the Gita in Marathi, along with elucidation.
- 453 From whom did some sections of the Hindus adopt the concept of the purdah? The Turks.
- 454 Who was the guru of Harihara and Bukka? Vidyaranya. He was the one who readmitted them into the Hindu fold.
- 455 Who were the first two kings of the Vijayanagara Empire? Harihara (1336-1356), Bukka I (1356-1377).
- 456 Who founded the Bahmani Kingdom? Alauddin Hasan also called Hasan Gangu
- 457 What title did Alauddin Hasan adopt at his coronation? Alauddin Hasan Bahman Shah. He is supposed to have adopted the name Bahman Shah as a mark of respect for a Brahmin in whose service he had risen to greatness.
- 458 Which Bahmani ruler encouraged the study of astronomy and even built an observatory near Daulatabad? Firuz Shah Bahmani.
- 459 What was the title of the ruler of Calicut (Kozhikode)? Zamorin.

- 460 Who were the parents of Sankaracharya? Sivaguru and Aryamba.
- 461 Who wrote Ain-i-Akbari? Abul Fazl. It is a work which deals with regulations issued by Akbar.
- 462 Who was the Sultan of Malwa who died when he went on board a Portuguese ship for negotiations? Bahadur Shah.
- 463 Which European power declared that trade in pepper, warhorses and arms and ammunitions was a royal monopoly? Portugal.
- 464 From which area have the potato and tobacco been introduced into India? Central America. By the Portuguese.
- 465 Who was born in Talwandi in 1469? GuruNanak.
- 466 What form of worship did Chaitanya Mahaprabhu popularise? Kirtans.
- 467 In which language did Narasimha Mehta (also known as Narsee Mehta) compose his songs and preach? Gujarati.
- 468 Which language did the Turks introduce into India? Persian.
- 469 Who was Nizammudin Auliya? A famous Sufi saint. His Dargah is in Delhi.
- 470 Which was the language, apart from Persian, used for administrative purpose in the Bahmani kingdom? Marathi
- 471 What was the chief reason for the difference between Hindustani and Camatic music? The introduction of Persian scales in Hindustani music led to the difference.
- 472 Babur succeeded to the throne of this kingdom in 1494 at the tender age of 11. Identify the kingdom. Farghana. Farghana is located in modern Uzbekistan.
- 473 When did Timur sack Delhi? 1398.
- 474 Who is supposed to have invited Babur to invade India? Daulat Khan Lodi, uncle of Ibrahim Lodi.
- 475 Who were the opponents in the first battle of Panipat? Babur and Ibrahim Lodi.
- 476 How long did the first battle of Panipat last? Three hours. It was all over by mid-day.
- 477 Who were the adversaries at the Battle of Khanua? It was fought between Babur and Rana Sanga.
- 478 Babur, after defeating Ibrahim Lodi and Rana Sanga had to deal with the Afghans who had regrouped. Who did the Afghans proclaim as their leader? Mahmud Lodi, brother of Ibrahim Lodi.
- 479 What was the new mode of warfare introduced by Babur in India? Extensive use of gunpowder. Though gunpowder was known in India, it was not used as skilfully and in combination with cavalry as Babur did.
- 480 What was the name of Babur's memoirs? Tizuk-I-Baburi.
- 481 Which kingdom did Shahaji Bhonsale, Shivaji's father serve initially? The Nizam Shahis of Ahmednagar. When Shah Jahan captured Ahmednagar, Shahaji sought service with the Sultan of Bijapur.
- 482 Who was the ruler of Malwa who was among the chief adversaries of Humayun? Bahadur Shah.
- 483 Who built a new city at Delhi called Dinpanah? Humayun.
- 484 At which battle was Humayun defeated by Sher Shah? The Battle of Chausa (March 1539) and Battle of Kanauj (May 1540).
- 485 At what age did Sher Shah ascend the throne of Delhi? At 67 years.
- 486 Where did Sher Shah build a Mausoleum for himself? Sasaram. (InBihar)
- 487 Who repaired the Grand Trunk road that ran from the river Indus to Sonargaon in Bengal? SherShah.
- 488 Where was Akbar born? Amarkotin1542.
- 489 Where was Akbar crowned? Kalanaur in Punjab in 1556.
- 490 What was the title that Bairam Khan adopted? He became the wakil of the kingdom with the title Khan-I-Khanan.
- 491 Who was the ruler of Malwa, who was defeated by the Mughal forces? Baz Bahadur. He was a master musician and an accomplished poet. There were also stories of his romance with the beautiful and talented Roopmati.
- 492 Who were the two famous warriors of Chittor who held the Mughal forces at bay for almost six months? Jaimal and Patta. Akbar, to honour these two warriors ordered their stone statues, seated on elephants, be erected outside the gate of the Agra fort.

- 493 What did Akbar divide his empire into? Suba. Each Suba was under a governor called Subedar.
- 494 Who succeeded Rana Uday Singh to the throne of Mewar? Rana Pratap (in 1572).
- 495 Akbar sent a series of embassies to Rana Pratap. These were sent to persuade him to accept the suzerainty of the Mughals. Who led these embassies? Man Singh, Bhagwan Das, Raja Todar Mal.
- 496 To whom did Akbar assign the task to translate the Bible (Gospel) into Persian? AbulFazl.
- 497 Which famous Mughal courtier lost his life in a campaign against the tribesmen of the Khyber pass? RajaBirbal.
- 498 Akbar, in 1575, built the Ibadat Khana. What was it for? It was the Hall of Prayer at Fatehpur Sikri.
- 499 What was the original name of Raja Birbal? MaheshDas.
- 500 Who founded Din-i-Ilahi? Akbar. Birbal was the only Hindu to accept the new religion of Din-i-Ilahi or Tauhid-i-Ilahi.
- 501 Who ordered the construction of the Charminar? Sultan Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah. He was a patron of art and architecture and a poet in Dakhani Urdu, Persian and Telugu. He had the Charminar constructed in 1591-92 at the centre of the new city of Hyderabad.
- 502 The Gol Gumbaz in Bijapur is one of the largest single domed structures constructed. Which dynasty built it? The Adil Shahi dynasty. A whisper at one end can be heard at the other end.
- 503 Jehangir had to face a rebellion immediately after he ascended the throne. Who was the rebel? Khusrau, Jehangir's eldest son.
- 504 Which Sikh guru completed the compilation of the Adi Granth? Guru Arjan Dev.
- 505 Which Mughal Prince had the Gita translated into Persian? Dara Shukoh (also spelt Shikoh).
- 506 Whom did the ruler of Bijapur send to capture Shivaji? Afzal Khan.
- 507 Who was the Mughal Governor of Deccan who was instructed by Aurangzeb to invade Shivaji's territories? Shaista Khan.
- 508 Which Mughal port city did Shivaji attack in 1664? Surat.
- 509 Who persuaded Shivaji to visit Aurangzeb at Agra? Raja Jai Singh of Amber.
- 510 Golconda, the world famous kingdom was built on the ruins of an old Hindu Kingdom. Which one? Warangal.
- 511 How was Mumtaz Mahal related to Nur Jahan? Mumtaz Mahal was the daughter of Asaf Khan, Nur Jahan's brother.
- 512 Who is regarded as the father of Carnatic music? Purandaradasa.
- 513 How could Shivaji with a relatively small army fight against the army of Bijapur? By adopting Guerrilla Warfare.
- 514 Whom did King Prataparudra consider as his guru? Chaitanya Mahaprabhu.
- 515 What was the capital of the Rajput Kingdom of Mewar? Chitor.
- 516 What was the act that led to the martyrdom of Guru Arjan? Khusrav, the son of Jehangir rebelled unsuccessfully against his father. When Khusrav was fleeing the Mughal forces, he was honourably received by Guru Arjan and provided with some money. This was perceived by Jehangir as an act of treason and ultimately led to the Guru's martyrdom.
- 517 Humayun attacked and besieged the fort of Chunar because it commanded the route between Agra and the east. Who was the person who held the fort? SherShah.
- 518 What gift did Humayun offer Babur after Babur arrived in Agra following the first Battle of Panipat? The Koh-i-nur.
- 519 Who saved the life of Uday Singh of Mewar, when he was still a prince? Panna. Panna, who was Uday Singh's nurse realised that his life was in danger; she placed her own son in Uday Singh's bed. The attackers assuming that Panna's son was the prince killed him thus saving Uday Singh.
- 520 From where did the Hoysala dynasty rule? Dorasamudra (or Dwarasamudra). The Hoysalas succeeded the Chalukyas of Kalyana as the leading power of the Mysore area.
- 521 Domingo Paes, the famous Portuguese traveller, described this city as the best provided city in the world. Name the city. Vijayanagar.

- 522 Who was the poet who enriched Kashmiri literature with her exquisite lyrics on love and life? Habba Khatun (also spelt Habba Khotun).
- 523 Who is the author of the Telugu work "Amuktamalyada"? Sri Krishnadevaraya, the greatest of the Vijayanagara rulers.
- 524 Over which part of India did Queen Didda (980-1003) rule? Kashmir.
- 525 According to tradition who were Harihara I and Bukka I serving before founding the Vijayanagara Empire? Prataparudra of Warangal.
- 526 During the time of the Vijayanagara rule, (Krishnadevaraya) what was the title adopted by the rulers of Orissa? Gajapati (1434 to 1541).
- 527 Vishwambhara (Nimai) was responsible for the revival of Vaishnavism in Bengal. What was the name by which we know him? Chaitanya Mahaprabhu.
- 528 The Sangama dynasty (1336 -1485), the Saluva dynasty (1485 - 1505) the Tuluva dynasty (1505 -1570), and the Aravidu dynasty (1570 - 1649). These dynasties ruled over, in the sequence given, the same kingdom. Which kingdom are we talking about? Vijayanagara Empire.
- 529 How did Timur come to be called Tamerlane? Timur had a limp because of an injury to his leg. Due to this the Persians called him Timur-i-lang (Timur the lame) which was corrupted by Europeans into Tamerlane.
- 530 What was the capital of the kingdom of the Gonds? Chandrapur. Durgavati was the queen of the Gonds who fought bravely with the Mughal forces sent by Akbar.
- 531 Who was Gorakhshanath, popularly known as Gorakhnath? Gorakhnath popularized the practice of Hathayoga throi AD. throughout India. He lived in the 10th - 11th century
- 532 Where was Kabir born? What was he known for? Kabir was born in Varanasi. Throughout his life he kept dwelling on the essential unity of all religions.
- 533 What are Abhangs? Who composed them? Abhang literally means unbroken. Unbroken rhymes were referred to as Abhangs. Tukaram is best known for his Abhangs. Many saints that came after him also composed Abhangs.
- 534 According to tradition who was the guru of Kabir? Ramananda.
- 535 In which year was emergency declared in post-independent India? In 1975.
- 536 What did the East India Company acquire as its zamindari in 1698? The zamindari of Sutanati, Kalikata and Govindpur.
- 537 Where is Fort William located? Present day Kolkata.
- 538 Which European power established itself at chandernagore and Pondicherry? The French.
- 539 During the rule of Tipu Sultan, what was the capital of Mysore? Srirangapatnam.
- 540 What were the Indian soldiers in the English army called? Sepoys.
- 541 During the rule of Muhammad Shah, who was the ruler of Persia who invaded India? Nadir Shah.
- 542 What was the result of the Battle of Karnal fought between Nadir Shah and Emperor Mohammad Shah? The Mughals lost and the Emperor Muhammad Shah was taken prisoner,
- 543 Among the other things, what were the precious articles Nadir Shah carried away from India? The Koh-i-noor diamond and the Peacock throne.
- 544 After Nadir Shah's death, which of his generals established his authority in Afghanistan? Ahmad Shah Abdali.
- 545 What was the Doctrine of Lapse? When the ruler of a protected state died without a natural heir, the adopted heir would not be able to succeed him. In such a case the state would be annexed by the British. The only exception would be if the British authorities approved of the adoption before hand.
- 546 Who was the Peshwa who signed the "Subsidiary Alliance"? Peshwa Baji Rao II on December 31, 1802. This was after the combined armies of the Peshwa and the Sindhia were defeated by the Holkar.
- 547 Who fought the third Battle of Panipat? Ahmad Shah Abdali and the Marathas (on 14th Jan 1761).
- 548 Who fought the battle of Buxar? The English fought against a confederacy of Mir Kasim; Shah Alam, the Mughal Emperor and Nawab Shuja-ud-daulah.

- 549 What was the result of the battle of Buxar? The English won and established their supremacy in Bengal.
- 550 Which Indian ruler was a member of the Jacobin Club? Tipu Sultan.
- 551 Name the Indian ruler who tried to promote trade with Russia, Arabia and Turkey. He also tried to set up a trading company on the lines of the East India Company. Tipu Sultan.
- 552 Of which state was Martanda Varma the ruler? Travancore.
- 553 The capital of the state of Travancore became an important centre of Sanskrit scholarship towards the later half of the 18th century. How do we know it today? Thiruvanthapuram (Trivandrum).
- 554 Who founded the city of Jaipur? Raja Sawai Jai Singh of Amber.
- 555 Where did Raja Sawai Jai Singh build astronomical observatories? Delhi, Jaipur, Ujjain, Varanasi and Mathura.
- 556 Under which guru did the Sikhs become a united political power? Guru Gobind Singh.
- 557 He was born in a Bengali Brahmin family at Radhanagar in 1774. He served under the East India Company from 1803 to 1814. He also founded the Brahmo Samaj? Who was he? Raja Ram Mohan Roy.
- 558 Why was the Cripps Mission sent to India? The British Government wanted India's help in the Second World War. It sent the Cripps Commission to persuade Indian leaders to support its war effort.
- 559 Who was the guru of Swami Vivekananda? Ramakrishna Paramhansa. He was a saint who lived in Dakshineswar in Bengal.
- 560 Over which kingdom did Ahalyabai rule? Indore.
- 561 Who was the first Viceroy of India? (appointed after the revolt of 1857) Lord Canning (1858-62).
- 562 When did the revolt of 1857 start? At Meerut, on May 10, 1857.
- 563 Name India's first newspaper? Bengal Gazette.
- 564 When and where did the first Congress session take place? 1885, Bombay. Goculdas Tejpal Auditorium.
- 565 When did Gandhiji start his Dandi March? March 12, 1930.
- 566 Who was known as the "Frontier Gandhi"? Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan.
- 567 Who wrote the novel, 'Anand Math'? Bankim Chandra Chatterji
- 568 Rabindranath Tagore renounced his knighthood as a protest against an incident. Name the incident. The Jallianwalla Bagh massacre.
- 569 He was an uncle of Bhagat Singh and was closely associated with Lala Lajpat Rai. He founded the "Bharat Mata" society and worked for the Ghadar party. He died on 15th August 1947. Who was it? Ajit Singh.
- 570 What was the Kuka movement? The Kuka movement began as a religious movement. Its aim was to purify the Sikh religion by removing superstitions that had crept into it. After the conquest of the Punjab by the British, the revival of the Sikh sovereignty became its chief aim.
- 571 Who wrote the poem "Heer Ranjha" (also known simply as "Heer")? Wans Shah.
- 572 He was born in Cuttack in 1897. He ranked 4th in the ICS (the forerunner of the IAS) exam but resigned. He was elected President of the Indian National Congress in 1938 and 1939, in spite of opposition from Mahatma Gandhi. He organised the Azad Hind Fauj founded by Ras Behari Bose. Who was he? Subhas Chandra Bose.
- 573 The Revolt of 1857 started in Meerut. To which regiment did the Sepoys belong? 3rd Cavalry.
- 574 What was the immediate cause of the revolt? The introduction of the New Enfield Rifle whose cartridges were believed to be greased with the fat of cows and pigs. Both Hindus and Muslims resented this.
- 575 Who led the revolt in Kanpur? Nana Saheb.
- 576 Which was the Maratha family that established itself in Baroda? The Gaekwads established themselves at Baroda, the Bhonsales at Nagpur, Holkars at Indore and the Sindhiyas at Gwalior.
- 577 What were the Dastaks? They were passes that the East India Company had the right to issue for the movement of goods. The East India Company did not pay any taxes on these goods.
- 578 The English secured the Diwani of Bengal from the Mughal Emperor Shah Alam. This Diwani was however different from the existing practice by the Mughals. In what respect? The English got their Diwani



rights permanently as opposed to the practice of limited tenure. Also under the Mughal system the office was given to an individual.

579 What did the Charter Act of 1833 achieve? It divested the East India Company of its commercial functions.

580 He was born in 1856 in Ratnagiri. He was one of the founders of the Poona New English School. In 1908 he was sentenced to 6 years imprisonment in Mandalay. He died in August 1920. Who is he? Bal Gangadhar Tilak.

581 Who recaptured Jhansi for the British? Sir Hugh Rose.

582 The Sikhs were organised into a confederacy of 12 units. What was the term given to these units? Misl.

583 Who was the first Peshwa of the Maratha kingdom? Balaji Vishwanath.

584 What help did Balaji Vishwanath render the Sayyid brothers? He marched to Delhi and helped them overthrow the Mughal Emperor Farrukh Siyar. (1719).

585 Who succeeded Balaji Vishwanath as the Peshwa? Bajirao I.

586 He was born in 1888 in Mecca. He was a scholar of Arabic, Persian, Urdu and fluent in Islamic theology. He was the education minister in Nehru's cabinet. Who was he? Abdul Kalam Azad.

587 What was the Rowlatt Act? The Rowlatt Act sought to impose wartime restrictions on civil liberties on a permanent basis. It provided for detention without trial.

588 Who is called the 'Mother of the Indian Revolution'? Madam Bhikhabai Rustam K.R. Cama.

589 When did Bhikhabai Cama unfurl the Indian flag? August 1907 at the International Socialist Congress held in Stuttgart. This was a tricolour in green, red and yellow.

590 What was the revolutionary Jatin Mukherji popularly known as? Bagha Jatin.

591 Why did all the Congress ministers resign in 1939? The working committee of the Congress asked the British Government to state whether their war aims included the elimination of imperialism and the treatment of India as a free nation. The British did not give a satisfactory reply. Hence they all resigned.

592 When was the Sharda Act for prevention of child marriage passed? In 1929. It was to come into force from 1930.

593 Who founded the "Mirat-ul-Akbar", the first Journal in Persian and the "Bangaduta" a weekly in four Languages? Raja Ram Mohan Roy.

594 He was a watchmaker by profession and had come to India from Netherlands in 1800. He however spent his entire life promoting education in India. He founded the Hindu College in Calcutta to take forward his ideas. Who was he? David Hare.

595 He was the Principal of the Sanskrit College in Calcutta and opened its gates to non-Brahmin students. He was a great proponent of widow-remarriages and the first lawful Hindu widow remarriage among the upper castes was celebrated under his supervision. Who was he? Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar.

596 Who started the Swatantra Party? C. Rajagopalachari.

597 Who gave the slogan "Do or Die"? Mahatma Gandhi. While launching the Quit India movement.

598 Where is Jallianwala Bagh? In Amritsar.

599 What infamous event occurred on April 13, 1919? The Jallianwala Bagh massacre.

600 Why were people gathered at the Jallianwala Bagh? They had gathered there to protest against the arrest of their leaders Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew and Dr. Satyapal.

601 Who was the first Governor General of Bengal? Warren Hastings.

602 What was the most important difference between the British and other conquerors of India?

Previous invaders became an integral part of India, whereas the British always maintained their own identity.

603 Who was the Maratha general who repeatedly fought against the British during the 1857 revolt and later kept harassing the British with guerrilla warfare till he was betrayed by Mansingh and hanged by the British? Tatia Tope.

604 When was the Champaran Agitation launched? The Champaran agitation was launched in the Champaran district of Bihar. It was against the English landlords who used to force the peasants to cultivate

indigo. When synthetic indigo was discovered they began to force the peasants to pay them compensation for not growing indigo any longer.

605 Which area did the Japanese hand over to the Azad Hind Government? Andaman and Nicobar islands.

606 Where did Mahatma Gandhi establish his first ashram in India? At Sabarmati, Ahmedabad.

607 Who popularised the Young India Journal? Mahatma Gandhi.

608 Why did Mahatma Gandhi spin cloth daily? To emphasise the dignity of labour and the value of self-reliance. Gandhi once said that from among the activities he was engaged in, khadi and uplift of the scheduled castes was the most important to him.

609 Why was the Akali movement started? To remove corrupt mahants from the Gurudwaras.

610 What was the unique mode of protest of the population of Chirala (in present day Andhra Pradesh) against the British? The whole town refused to pay the municipal tax and moved out of the village.

611 What was the Chauri Chaura incident? A crowd angered by police firing set fire to a police station killing many policemen.

612 What was the impact of the Chauri Chaura incident on the Freedom struggle? Gandhiji suspended the struggle because he felt people had yet to understand the concept of non-violence.

613 Where was the decision to suspend the agitation taken? Bardoli in Gujarat.

614 Who founded the Swarajya party? Chitta Ranjan Das and Motilal Nehru.

615 To which country did Subhas Chandra Bose escape to carry on the Freedom Struggle? Germany. He escaped from Calcutta (Kolkata) and travelled through Peshawar, reaching Kabul via Jalalabad. From there he went to Russia (with an Italian passport) and then to Berlin from Moscow.

616 Who is the father of the Indian Chemical Industry? Prafulla Chandra Ray.

617 After Delhi fell to the British during the revolt of 1857 what brutal act did the British officer Hodson commit? He shot dead the sons of Bahadur Shah at point blank range.

618 Who passed a resolution declaring Sati illegal and punishable by the courts? William Bentinck.

619 Who led the rebellion of the Koyas (tribals of the West Godavari district in Andhra Pradesh) against the British? Alluri Sitarama Raju.

620 When was Bengal first partitioned by the British, leading to wide-spread agitation? In 1905.

621 Who did the soldiers, who rebelled in Meerut, declare as the Emperor of India? The soldiers set out for Delhi from Meerut where they were joined by the local infantry. Here they proclaimed Bahadur Shah as the Emperor of India.

622 Who led the revolt at Lucknow? Begum Hazrat Mahal of Awadh.

623 Who founded the Arya Samaj? Swami Dayananda Saraswati in 1875.

624 What did Swami Dayananda Saraswati regard as infallible? The Vedas. He considered them to be the fountain of knowledge.

625 Madam H.P. Blavatsky and Colonel H.S. Olcott founded the headquarters of this society at Adyar, Madras. Which society was this? The Theosophical Society.

626 Who was the first Indian to be elected to the leadership of the Communist International? M.N. Roy.

627 Who threw a bomb in the Central Legislative Assembly? Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt (on April 9, 1929). Their aim in throwing a bomb in the Central Legislative Assembly was, as their leaflet pointed out, "to make the deaf hear". Not to hurt anyone.

628 Which British general defeated Haider Ali? Eyre Coote in July 1781.

629 He was a member of the Hindustan Socialist Republican Army. He was sentenced to death for his role in the Kakori train conspiracy. He composed the revolutionary song, "Sarfarooshi ki tamana ab hamare dil mein hai...." Name him. Ram Prasad Bismil. (1897-1927).

630 Who became the Peshwa after the Battle of Panipat? Madhav Rao. After the death of Balaji Baji Rao.

631 Which Mughal Emperor became a pensioner of the Marathas in 1771? Shah Alam.

632 When was the Poona Pact signed by Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar? In 1932.

633 When did Mahatma Gandhi arrive in India from South Africa? 1915 (January).



- 634 Who was the Viceroy who was assassinated by a convict when he visited the Andamans? Lord Mayo.
- 635 When was the "Quit India" Resolution passed? August 8, 1942, in Goculdas Tejpal Auditorium in Bombay.
- 636 Who was the only Indian ruler who never allied himself with the British to fight against other Indian rulers? Tipu Sultan.
- 637 Who were the signatories to the treaty of Seringapatam (Srirangapatnam)? Tipu Sultan and the British.
- 638 What were the important clauses of the treaty of Seringapatam? Tipu Sultan had to cede about half his territories to the English and also pay Rs.330 lakhs as indemnity. His two sons were also kept as hostages.
- 639 What was the Wood's Despatch? What is its significance? Sir Charles Wood sent an educational despatch that formed the basis of the subsequent development of university education in India. Based on the principles outlined in Wood's Despatch three universities were established in India in Calcutta (Kolkata), Bombay (Mumbai) and Madras (Chennai).
- 640 Who were the Siddhis? They were people of Abyssinian descent who were put in charge of important forts like Raigarh, Dabhol and Ratnagiri by Aurangzeb. They were a maritime power and constant source of problems for the Marathas.
- 641 He was a revolutionary, who was arrested by the British in the Maniktala bomb conspiracy. In 1910, he went to Pondicherry and led a life of a spiritualist. Who was he? Aurobindo Ghosh.
- 642 Who founded the Benaras Hindu University? Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya in 1916.
- 643 He entered politics with the Kheda Satyagraha. In 1922 he played a leading role in the Bardoli Satyagraha. He was Independent India's first home minister. Name him. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- 644 Who succeeded Peshwa Baji Rao? Peshwa Baji Rao was succeeded by Balaji Baji Rao.
- 645 Who was the Peshwa during the third battle of Panipat? Peshwa Balaji Baji Rao.
- 646 Who founded the Tattvabodhini Sabha? Later he became a great leader of the Brahmo Samaj movement. Debendranath Tagore, father of Rabindranath Tagore.
- 647 What was the Komagata Maru episode? The Komagata Maru was a Japanese vessel that was hired to take a large number of Punjabis to Canada. The passengers were not allowed to disembark and they therefore made their way back to India. The Komagata Maru on return, docked at Budge-Budge near Calcutta. The British ordered the passengers to go to Punjab in a special train. Those who wanted to go to Calcutta refused to do so and were fired upon, leaving eighteen dead and twenty nine not being accounted for.
- 648 After the Revolt, Bahadur Shah II was arrested and deported to a city outside modern India. Name the city. Rangoon.
- 649 Who was the French Governor General who helped Muzzafar Jung become the Nizam of Hyderabad? Dupleix.
- 650 How do we better know Narendranath Datta? Swami Vivekananda.
- 651 Muazzam, Aurangzeb's son, succeeded him to the throne of Delhi. On ascension he assumed a royal title. What was the title? Bahadur Shah.
- 652 Ranjit Singh was appointed the governor of Kabul at the age of 19. Who appointed him? ZamanShah.
- 653 Who was the 18th century Hindu ruler who performed two Asvamedha sacrifices? Sawai Jai Singh of Amber.
- 654 The English obtained the royal Farman from the Nawabs of Bengal in 1717. There was one privilege in the Farman that was to prove an irritant. What was the privilege? The freedom to export and import goods in Bengal without paying customs duties.
- 655 Who was the judge who found Raghunath Rao Peshwa, guilty of murder and said, "No penalty other than death is prescribed for such a crime"? Ram Shastri Prabhune.
- 656 Who did General Hugh Rose refer to as "the only man among the rebels"? Rani Lakshmibai.
- 657 Who were the adversaries in the battle of Wandiwash? The British and the French. The supremacy of the British was thoroughly established as the consequences of this battle.
- 658 What was the result of the battle of Wandiwash? The British under Eyre Coote comprehensively routed the French

- 659 Who coined the slogan "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan"? Lal Bahadur Shastri. The slogan became immensely popular and was soon on the lips of almost every Indian.
- 660 Who said the following and in what context ".... in the sky of India, serene as it is, a small cloud might arise, at first no bigger than a man's hand but which growing larger and larger, may at last threaten to burst and overwhelm us with ruin." Lord Canning. He was referring to the situation in India just prior to the Revolt of 1857.
- 661 The first Round Table Conference was a result of a suggestion by an Englishman to the then British Prime Minister. Who was the Britisher? Sir John Simon (Chairman of the Simon Commission)
- 662 Who was the sole representative of the Congress at the second Round Table Conference? Mahatma Gandhi.
- 663 Who was the first President of the Indian National Congress? Womesh Chandra Banerji.
- 664 Who was the first Indian woman President of the Indian National Congress? Sarojini Naidu.
- 665 When did Mahatma Gandhi become the President of the Indian National Congress? 1924.
- 666 Who was the President of the Congress in 1947 at the time of Independence? Rajendra Prasad.
- 667 Who died fighting the police at Alfred Park in Lucknow? Chandrashekhar Azad. He shot himself with the last bullet that he had been left with.
- 668 Who signed the Treaty of Salbai? The Marathas and the English in 1782. The treaty established beyond dispute, the dominance of the British as the controlling factor in Indian politics.
- 669 What was the result of the Treaty of Salbai? Though the English did not gain materially, it gave them peace with the Marathas for 20 years, thereby enabling them to fight other enemies such as the French and Tipu Sultan.
- 670 Who was the chief minister of Peshwa Baji Rao II? Nana Fadnavis. He was responsible for preserving the Maratha confederacy. He also resisted British interference in Maratha affairs.
- 671 What is the meaning of the word "Satyagraha"? Satyagraha consists of two words : Satya (truth) and agraha (insistence). The term was coined by Mahatma Gandhi.
- 672 Who started the Home Rule movement? Annie Besant. At the Congress session held in Kolkata in 1917, the demand for home rule was made eloquent by Ms. Annie Besant, the President of the session.
- 673 Who formulated the two nation theory? M.A.Jinnah.
- 674 Over which area did the Asaf Jahis rule? The state of Hyderabad as it then was.
- 675 Where did Aurobindo Ghosh begin to live after renouncing an active political life? In Pondicherry from 1910 till the end 1950.
- 676 Which was the first state of India to be formed on the basis of language? Andhra Pradesh.
- 677 Who was Gopal Ganesh Agarkar? He was a social reformer of Maharashtra. He was the founder editor of Kesari, but later concentrated on a new newspaper he started called Sudharak.
- 678 Who was Kanaklata Barua? Kanaklata Barua played an important role in the freedom struggle. She was shot dead while holding the congress flag during the Quit India movement.
- 679 Who led the Santhals who were armed with only bows and arrows? Birsa Munda.
- 680 A prominent Naga fighter she spent eighteen years in prison for her role in the freedom struggle. Who was she? Gidalyu Rani who led the Nagas. She was released in 1949.
- 681 When did the Naval Mutiny break out? February 1946
- 682 He was born in 1889 at Allahabad. He was sent to England for studies and returned to India in 1912. He made his first appearance on the Congress platform as a delegate in 1912 at the Bankipore session. In 1923 he was elected General Secretary of the Congress. Who was he? Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.
- 683 Who were the adversaries at the Battle of Plassey? The British fought Siraj-ud-Daulah the Nawab of Bengal.
- 684 In the Battle of Plassey, a major part of Siraj-ud-Daulah's army did not take part in the fighting. Why was this? Mir Jafar and Rai Durlabh who commanded a major portion of the army had turned traitors and did not join in the battle.

- 685 Who were the only two leading men of Siraj-ud-Daulah's court who took active part in the Battle of Plassey? Mir Madan and Mohan Lal.
- 686 Who was raised to the throne of Bengal after the Battle of Plassey? Mir Jafar.
- 687 Who succeeded Mir Jaffar to the throne of Bengal? Mir Kasim, his son-in-law.
- 688 Who devised the system of "Subsidiary Alliances"? Lord Wellesley. By using Subsidiary Alliances Lord Wellesley saw to it that the Indian princes remained helpless and would soon be unable to govern their territory without the help of the British army.
- 689 How did Tipu Sultan die? He died fighting the English on May 4, 1799?
- 690 What role did the Chapekar brothers play in the Freedom struggle? Damodar Chapekar along with his two brothers, Vasudev and Balakrishna, fired at Rand and then disappeared in the dark. They were arrested later and were hanged.
- 691 He worked throughout his life for the uplift of the 'untouchables'. He was the law minister in the interim government. He was the Chairman of the Constituent Assembly's Drafting Committee. Who was he? Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.
- 692 Which day was fixed as the first Independence Day? 31st December 1929.
- 693 When was the Indian Tri-colour (saffron, white and green) hoisted for the first time? December 31, 1929. At the Congress session.
- 694 If anyone wanted to meet Mahatma Gandhi on the 6th of April 1930, where would they have needed to go? To Dandi. On this day Gandhiji breached the salt law.
- 695 Who organised the society of Khudai Khidmatgars (servants of god)? Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan.
- 696 Why did Subhas Bose resign from the Presidentship of the Congress in 1939? He did so because of opposition from Gandhiji.
- 697 Which party did Subhas Bose found? Forward Bloc.
- 698 Who was responsible (as President of the "Committee of Public Instruction") for the introduction of English education in India? Thomas Babington Macaulay.
- 699 Whom did Ahmed Shah Abdali serve as a general before proclaiming himself king? Nadir Shah. Ahmed Shah Abdali proclaimed himself king of Afghanistan after Nadir Shah's assassination.
- 700 What was the title adopted by Ahmed Shah Abdali when he crowned himself ruler of Afghanistan? Durr-i-Durran, 'The pearl of the age.' His clan came to be known as Durrani.
- 701 What were the Morley Minto reforms? In 1909, the reforms introduced by Morley and Minto provided for the association of qualified Indians with the Government of India to a greater extent in deciding public queries.
- 702 Who did the Marathas decisively defeat in the Palkhed campaign of 1727-28? The Nizam-ul-Mulk of Hyderabad. This campaign ensured that the Nizam's attempt at challenging Maratha supremacy failed.
- 703 Which French Governor has been given the credit of using Indian Sepoys in his army? Dupleix.
- 704 Who handed over the leadership of the Independence Movement in East Asia to Subhas Chandra Bose? Rash Behari Bose (on July 4, 1943).
- 705 What was the slogan adopted by the Muslim League at its Karachi Session in 1943? Divide and Quit.
- 706 Who is Subramania Bharati? A Tamil poet and nationalist of the early 20th Century.
- 707 Who was the Viceroy at the time of Independence? Lord Louis Mountbatten.
- 708 Who was hired by a group of Porbandar Muslims (who were working in Natal, South Africa) as their lawyer in 1893? M.K. Gandhi.
- 709 Where did Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose set up the provisional government of free India? In Singapore. It had been renamed Shonan. Subhas Chandra Bose regularly addressed Indians from Shonan Radio.
- 710 Who gave the first call for the freedom struggle in 1857? Mangal Pandey.
- 711 Who was the freedom fighter who led the Ramoshis of Maharashtra? Vasudev Balwant Phadke.

- 712 He was popularly known as Sher-e-Punjab. He founded the weekly "The People". He died due to the injuries he received from a brutal lathi charge by the police when protesting against the Simon Commission. Who was he? LalaLajpatRai.
- 713 Who initiated the celebration of the Ganapati Festival and the Shivaji Jayanti as social activities to awaken the people? Lokamanya Tilak.
- 714 What was the slogan that electrified the nation when Bengal was partitioned? Bande Mataram.
- 715 What was the Poona Pact? The pact between Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Ambedkar. This pact was against the separate electorates announced by the British.
- 716 What was the Act which granted partial autonomy to the Provinces? Government of India Act of 1935.
- 717 Who was the Governor General of India who added the maximum extent of Indian territories to the East India Company? Lord Dalhousie
- 718 Who was the Governor General of India when the Revolt of 1857 broke out? Lord Canning
- 719 Which Act passed by the British was termed the Gagging Act? The Vernacular Press Act, 1878. This Act empowered a magistrate to stop a publisher from publishing anything that would create disaffection against the government.
- 720 Who was responsible for the partition of Bengal in 1905? Lord Curzon.
- 721 During whose Viceroyalty was the capital changed from Calcutta to Delhi? Lord Hardinge (in 1912).
- 722 What was the Khilafat movement? The Sultan of Turkey, who was the Caliph, was deposed after World War I. The Khilafat Movement was launched in India to defend the prestige of the Caliph.
- 723 Her real name was Madeleine Slade. She was a devoted follower of Gandhiji. What was the name given to her by Gandhiji? MeeraBehn.
- 724 The British created the Kingdom of Satara out of the Peshwa's lands. Who was it given to? A descendant of Chhatrapati Shivaji.
- 725 To which party did Chandrashekar Azad belong? Hindustan Socialist Republican Association.
- 726 Who was the leader, whose death led Bhagat Singh, Azad and Rajguru to assassinate the British police officer Saunders? Lala Lajpat Rai.
- 727 In April 1930, the revolutionary Surya Sen led an activity. What was it? He organised an armed raid on the government armoury at Chittagong.
- 728 Who were executed on March 23, 1931? Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru in Lahore prison.
- 729 In 1927, the British Government appointed the Indian Statutory Commission. How was it popularly known as? Simon Commission.
- 730 What was interesting about Jawaharlal Nehru taking over the Presidentship of the Indian National Congress at the Lahore session of 1929? He succeeded his father Motilal Nehru.
- 731 At which session was a resolution passed which declared "Poorna Swaraj" (total freedom) as the Congress objective? At the session held at Lahore, 1929.
- 732 Who conceived of the idea of setting up the Indian National Congress? Allan Octavian Hume.
- 733 What did Mahatma Gandhi describe as a post-dated cheque? The Cripps offer of Independence.
- 734 Who was the admiral who recreated the Maratha navy almost single handed? Kanhoji Angrey (also spelt Angria).

## Important Personalities

No. Name About him

1. Abraham Lincoln (1809-'65) Abraham Lincoln was the 16th President of the U.S.A. from 1861 to 1865 and was returned from the Republican Party. He opposed slavery and was a great champion of democracy. He was assassinated in 1865.
2. Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) Franklin was a famous American philosopher and statesman who actively helped in promoting the declaration of independence.
3. Acharya Vinoba Bhave Born 11 September, 1895 in Gujrat. He was educated at Baroda. Met Gandhiji and joined Sabarmati Ashram in 1916. He was originator of Bhoodan yagna Movement. He received Magsaysay Award in 1969. He received Bharat Ratna award in 1983.
4. C.N. Annadurai Was the founding father of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), a political party of South India. DMK obtained absolute majority in the Tamil nadu Legislative Assembly at the elections of 1967 and 1971.
5. Horgovind Khurana Has become famous in carrying out research work in the U.S.A. He was awarded Nobel Prize in 1968 in Physiology and Medicine.
6. Indira Gandhi Was President of Congress in 1959. Became Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting in 1964-66. Was Prime Minister of India in 1966-77 and again in 1980-1984.
7. Jawaharlal Nehru (1889-1964) Famous Indian leader and statesman who was the first Prime Minister of India. Author of 'The Discovery of India', 'Glimpses of World History', etc.
8. Jefferson, Thomas He was the 3rd President of the U.S.A. and founder of the Republican Party. He helped in drafting the Declaration of Independence.
9. Konstantin Chernenko Became President of USSR after the death of President Andropov in 1984. President Chernenko died in 1985.
10. Martin Luther (1483-1546) Martin Luther was a German preacher during the reign of Henry VIII of England. He translated the Bible in German. Founder of reformation movement and Protestantism in Europe.
11. Mihir Sen He is the first Indian to swim the English Channel. He also swam the Palk Strait, the Gibraltar strait and Dardanelles strait.
12. Morarji Desai Resigned Bombay Provincial Civil Service and joined Non-Cooperation Movement under Gandhiji in 1930. Was Chief Minister of Bombay, 1952-1956, Union Minister in 1956-63. After formation of the Janata Party, was the Prime Minister of India from 1977 to 1979.
13. Mother Teresa Was born in Yugoslavia in 1910. The Roman Catholienun came to India as a teacher and began organizing schools for slum children in 1948. She has established 100 centres in the country comprising schools, charitable dispensaries, home for lepers, T.B. Patients, unwanted and crippled children. She was awarded Nobel Prize for Peace in 1979, as the first Indian. Was awarded Bharat Ratna in 1980.
14. Niels Bohr (1885-1963) Niels Bohr was a nuclear physicist of denmark. His pioneering work led to the invention of nuclear fission and atomic bomb. Received Nobel Prize in Physics in 1922.
15. Ravishankar Ravishankar is the world-famous artist in sitar.
16. Ramanujam (1887-1920) The great Indian Mathematician who was famous for his work on Theory of Numbers. He became an F.R.S. in 1918.
17. H.G. Wells (1866-1946) H.G. Wells was a famous author of English novels. His science-based tales are of great appeal all over the world. The famous books written by him are "The Invisible Man", "Time Machine" and "The Shape of things to come."
18. Abul Fazal (1551-1602) Famous Mughal court poet, scholar and councillor of Akbar. His books Akbar-Nama and Ain-i-Akbari throw light on Mughal rule and particularly on the reign of Akbar.
19. Abdul Ghaffar Khan A great congress leader of the N.W.F.P. and leader of Red Shirts. He is popularly known as 'Frontier Gandhi'. He received the Nehru Award for peace and international understanding. He was awarded Bharat Ratna in 1987.
20. Aesop (620-544 B.C.) Famous writer of greece. his fables are very instructive and interesting.



21. Alexander the Great (356-323 B.C.) Became the king of Macedon in Greece in 336 B.C. One of the greatest generals and conquerors of the world. Founded Alexandria and invaded India in 326 B.C. Reached Beas. Died at Babylon.
22. Akbar (1556-1605) The greatest of the Mughal Emperors of India. Founder of a new religion Din-i-Ilahi. He abolished pilgrim tax and Jazia. Took the Empire to its peak in administration.
23. Amir Khusro Scholar in the court of Alauddin Khilji. Laid the foundation of Urdu poetry. He wrote in Hindi also, known as the "Parrot of India".
24. Annie Besant (1846-1933) Irish Lady who supported Indian Nationalist Movement. Founder President of Theosophical Society. Was elected President of the Indian National Congress.
25. Aristotle (384-322 B.C.) Greek philosopher, artist, poet and thinker. Disciple of Plato and teacher of Alexander the Great. Founder of a famous school of philosophy. "The Ethics and Poetics" are his famous works.
26. Archimedes (287-212 B.C.) Greek mathematician, inventor & Scientist. Discovered the principles of the lever and of specific gravity. Invented Archimedean screw.
27. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar (1893-1956) Law minister of India, 1947-51. Member of the constituent Assembly. Chairman of the constitution drafting Committee. "Annihilation of Caste" is his famous work.
28. Aryabhatta (476-520 A.D.) Great Indian astronomer and mathematician. India's first scientific satellite was named after him. Explained the causes of solar and lunar eclipses. Determined the diameter of the earth and the moon. He laid the foundation of algebra and was responsible for pointing out the importance of "Zero".
29. Ashoka (273-236 B.C.) Indian Emperor of the Mauryan Dynasty. Embraced Buddhism after the Kalinga War. One of the existing monuments of Ashoka is the Sanchi Stupa. His inscriptions on rocks and pillars are of great historical interest. Famous for sanity of thought, uprightness of character and love of humanity.
30. Aurobindo Ghosh (1872-1959) Politician, Philosopher, poet & saint. First editor of "Bande Mataram", Works: Life Divine, Essays on Gita, Basis of Yoga.
31. Babar (1483-1530) Founder of the Mughal Empire in India. Conquered the throne of Delhi after the first battle of Panipat (1526) against Ibrahim Lodhi. His "Memoirs" hold a high place in the history of literature.
32. Banabhatta Court poet of King Harsha Vardhana. Works: Harshacharita and Kadambari.
33. Bhaskaracharya Great mathematician and astronomer of the twelfth century. Work 'Sidhanta Siromani'.
34. Bismarck (1815-1898) Known as the "Man of blood and iron". Founded the German Empire. A great administrator.
35. Gautama Buddha (623-543 B.C.) Kshatriya prince, son of Suddhodana, the king of Kapilavastu in Nepal. Founder of Buddhism. Developed the philosophy of pessimism.
36. Dr. H.J. Bhabha (1909-1966) Indian Physicist. President, Indian Science Congress, 1951. Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission of India. The first Atomic Reactor was completed under his guidance in 1956 and the second reactor was commissioned in 1960. Was made a fellow of the Royal Society in London in 1941.
37. Subhash Chandra Bose (1897- ?) Indian nationalist and organizer of the Indian National Army (I.N.A.) during the World War II. Was called 'Netaji'. Was elected President of the Indian National Congress in 1937 and 1938. Founder of the political party 'Forward Block'.
38. Julius Caesar (102-44 B.C.) Roman General and statesman. Invaded Gaul and Britain. Paved the way for the Roman Empire. Was also an orator, poet and historian.
39. Winston Churchill (1877-1965) British statesman, soldier and author. Leader of Conservative party. Led Britain as Prime Minister during World War II. Won Nobel Prize for literature in 1953. Famous work: 'The Gathering Storm, War Memorials, etc.
40. Chanakya (Kautilya) (4th Century B.C.) Famous minister of Chandra Gupta Maurya and was responsible for the fall of the Nanda Dynasty. "Arthashastra" is his famous book. It throws light on the then system of government, the revenue system, the art of administration and the duties of the king.
41. Nicolas Copernicus (1473-1543) Polish astronomer who first propounded the astronomical theory that the sun is the centre of the solar system and the earth and other planets revolve round the sun.

42. Madame Marie Curie (1867-1934) Discovered Radium. Won the Nobel Prize twice (Physics-1903, Chemistry-1911)
43. Lord Clive (Robert Clive) (1725-1774) Founded the British Empire in India by defeating Seraj-ud-daula at Plassey in 1757. Twice appointed Governor of Bengal (1757-'60) and (1764-'67)
44. Bankimchandra Chattopadhyay (1838-1894) Bengali novelist. Introduced a rich style in the Bengali language. "Durgeshnandini", "Bishabrikha", "Anandamath" are some of his outstanding works.
45. W.E. Disney (1901-1966) American film cartoonist Producer of Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck etc. Creator of Disneyland, California.
46. Dayanand Saraswati (1824-1883) Great Hindu reformer. Founder of the `Arya Samaj' (1875). Fought against untouchability, preached widow re-marriage, supported women's education.
47. Thomas Alva Edison (1847-1931) American inventor. Invented telephone transmitter, megaphone, phonograph, incandescent bulb, cinematograph, etc.
48. Euclid (330-269 B.C.) Greek mathematician and author of elements of Geometry.
49. Fa-hien The first Buddhist pilgrim from China who came to India during the reign of Chandragupta II ('Vikramaditya') to collect Buddhist relics and sacred literature. He stayed in India from 401 to 410 A.D.
50. Michael Faraday (1791-1867) British scientist who founded the science of electromagnetism. Discovered the laws of Electrolysis.
51. Firdousi (940-1020) Epic poet of Persia. He was a court poet of Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni. His 'Shah-nama' contains 60,600 verses describing the history of Persia.
52. Galileo Italian mathematician and astronomer. Invented telescope (1609) and the first man to see the satellites of Jupiter. (1564-1642)
53. M.K. Gandhi (1869-1948) Led 'Satyagraha' movement in South Africa. Associated with many movements during the struggle for independence of India viz., Non-co-operation movement in 1920, Salt Satyagraha, Quit India in 1942. His main principles were non-violence and truth. He was called the 'Father of the Nation'. His autobiography 'My Experiments with Truth' is world-famous.
54. Harsha Vardhana Hindu King of India (606-647 A.D.). The account of his reign is available from two sources : Hiuen Tsang, a Chinese traveller, and Banabhatta, the famous Sanskrit poet. Nalanda University flourished during his time.
55. Hiuen Tsang Famous Chinese Buddhist pilgrim who visited India during the reign of King Harsha, stayed in India from 629 to 644 A.D. and learnt Buddhist scriptures at Nalanda University. He has left interesting records of the conditions in India at that time.
56. Adolf Hitler German dictator and founder of National Socialism. The Chancellor of Germany since 1933 and Leader of Reich since 1934. Started a Fascist movement. Involved Germany into the World War II and was defeated in 1945. Author of 'Mein Kampf'.
57. Ho-Chi-Minh Organised the revolutionary nationalist party of Indo-China against French rule. Led the struggle for Vietnam's independence during World War II. As President of North Vietnam he defied the USA for the unification of Vietnam, Great communist leader.
58. Kalidasa Epic figure in classic Sanskrit literature. Works : 'Shakuntala', 'Meghaduta', 'Kumar Sambhava' etc. Flourished in the time of Vikramaditya.
59. Kabir One of the greatest exponents of Bhakti Movement - a socio-religious movement spread in the Middle Ages which aimed at liberalising the religious practices of Hindus. Disciple of Ramanand. Kabir believed in the unity of God and equality of all religions.
60. Lenin Leader of the Russian Revolution in 1917. Head of the Soviet Government from 1917 to 1924.
61. Leonardo da Vinci Italian painter, sculptor, architect, scientist and musician. Famous paintings are 'The Last Supper' and 'Mona Lisa'.
62. Mahavira Born in the 6th century B.C. Jainism which is a religious sect of Hinduism was strengthened by him. Apostle of non-violence. Prescribed code of penance for his followers. The religion did not spread outside India.



63. Megasthenes Was Greek ambassador to Chandra Gupta Maurya's Court sent by seleucus. His book 'Indika' is a source of information about the state of India at that time.
64. Mao-Tse-Tung (1893-1976) Chairman of the Chinese Communist Party 1936-59. First Chairman of the Central Government of the People's Republic of China., 1949-59. Organised the Red Guards to start the Cultural Revolution.
65. Karl Marx (1818-83) German philosopher and socialist. Author of 'Communist Manifesto' and 'Das Kapital'. Communism is based on his teachings.
66. Michael Angelo(1475-1564) Italian painter, sculptor, architect and poet who did much to beautify the churches of Rome and Florence by his genius.
67. Marco Polo (1256-1323) Famous Venetian traveller and explorer. The first European to visit china. Made journeys through China, India and other Eastern countries and published a record of his wanderings.
68. Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821) French Emperor and General. Conquered most of Europe. Was defeated in the battle of Waterloo in 1815 and died in exile at St.Helena's Island.
69. Florence Nightingale (1820-1910) British nurse and hospital reformer. Organised a nursing service during the Crimean War (1854-56), which reformed the age-old system in hospitals. Her system was later adopted throughout the world. Known as 'The Lady with the Lamp.'
70. Picasso (1881-1973) Spanish painter and sculptor.Founded cubist school of painting. 'Guernica' is his civil war painting.
71. Maharana Pratap (1540-97) Raiput chief who refused to acknowledge Akbar's overlordship. Defeated at Haldighat in 1576. Reconquered the greater part of his possessions.
72. Ramkrishna Paramhansa (1833-1886) Indian religious saint and preceptor of Swami Vivekanand.
73. Roosevelt (1882-1945) President of the USA from 1933 till his death, being the first American to be elected for more than two terms. He met the economic crisis of 1933 with a policy for a 'New Deal'.
74. William Shakespeare(1564-1616) The Greatest poet and dramatist of england. Author of several plays such as 'Julius Caesar', 'Macbeth', 'Romeo and Juliet', 'Hamlet', 'The Merchant of Venice', 'Antony and Cleopatra', etc.
75. Socrates (463-399 B.C.) Greek Philosopher and intellectual leader. Plato was his pupil. He was sentenced to death on charges of impiety and corrupting the young.
76. Stalin (1879-1953) Soviet Statesman. played an important part in the Russian Revolution of 1917. Became the outstanding leader of Russia after the death of Lenin in 1924. Introduced in 1929 the famous Five Year Plan to build new Russia. General Secretary of the Central Executive Committee of the USSR, 1924-41.
77. George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950) Irish dramatist, socialist, writer and journalist. His famous plays are 'Pleasant and Unpleasant', 'Man and Superman', 'Mrs.Warren's Profession'.
78. Swami Vivekanand (1863-1902) A great Hindu Saint and religious leader. His original name was Narendranath Datta. Follower of Ramkrishna Paramhansa. Led the Vedanta movement. Founded Ramkrishna Mission at Belur (West Bengal). Among his books 'Janam Yoga', 'Bhakti Yoga' and 'Karma Yoga' are best known.
79. Savarkar (1883-1966) Nationalist leader from Maharashtra. Leader of the Hindu Mahasabha. Author of 'Indian War of Independence'.
80. Shankaracharya (Born 788 A.D.) A great scholar,philosopher and religious teacher. Countered the influence of Buddhism and Jainism. Wrote authoritative commentaries on the Upanishadas.
81. Shivaji (1627-80) Brave general and capable administrator. Fought successfully many battles against Aurangzeb's army and was instrumental in shattering the structure of Mughal Empire in India. Made the Marathas a strong nation. Was crowned king in 1674 at Raigarh.
82. Shah Jehan The Mughal Emperor (1628-58). Built Taj Mahal at Agra in memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal. Lal Quila and Jama Masjid in Delhi were also built in his time.
83. Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941) Great Indian poet,novelist,dramatist,composer,philosopher,educationist,artist and humanist. Won Noble Prize for literature in 1913. Works : 'Gitanjali', 'Gora', 'Chitra','Wreck', 'Post Office', 'Hungry Stones', etc. Founded the international university Visva-Bharti at Shantiniketan (W.B.)

84. Bal Gangadhar Tilak (1856-1920) One of the pioneers of the Indian freedom movement. Started two newspapers, the 'Kesari' in Marathi and the 'Maratha' in English. He declared 'Swaraj is my birthright and I shall have it'. Wrote a commentary on the Gita, the 'Gita Rahasya'.
85. Tansen Great exponent of Indian classical music. He was one of the 'Nau Rattans' in the court of Akbar.
86. Leo Tolstoy (1828-1910) Russian writer, philosopher, social reformer and religious teacher. His chief novels are 'War and Peace', 'Anna Karenina', 'Resurrection', etc.
87. Marshal Tito (1892-1980) Yugoslav leader. Called the Neutral Nations Conference at Belgrade in 1961. A firm believer in non-alignment.
88. Vasco da Gama A portuguese Sailor, who in 1498, rounded the Cape of Good hope and succeeded in reaching the port of Calicut in south India.
89. George Washington (1732-99) Commander-in-Chief of the American army during the American War of Independence (1775-83). First President of the Republic of USA elected in 1789; re-elected in 1793.
90. Murlidhar Devidas Amte Popularly known as Baba Amte, an Indian Lawyer who has made the lives of thousands of lepers and other social outcastes productive and respectable. Was awarded the 1985 Magsaysay award for public service. 'Anandwan' is the first of the settlements established by him for lepers and other physically handicapped people.
91. Martin Luther King (1929-68) U.S. negro civil rights leader. It was due to his efforts that the U.S. Civil Rights Act was passed in 1964. Won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

## Parliaments

No.	Country	Name of Parliament
01	Bangladesh	Jatiyo Sangsad
02	Britain	Parliament (House of Commons is the Lower House and House of lords is the Upper house)
03	West Germany	Lower House-Bundesrat, Upper House-Bundestag
04	India	Parliament (Lok Sabha is the Lower house & Rajya Sabha is the Upper House)
05	Iran	Majlis
06	Israel	Kneeset
07	Japan	Diet
08	Nepal	Panchayat
09	Sweden	Riksdag
10	U.S.A.	Congress (Lower House-house of Representatives & Upper house-Senate)
11	U.S.S.R.	Supreme Soviet
12	China	National Peoples, Congress
13	Denmark	Folketing
14	Holland	States, General
15	Pakistan	Parliament (National Assembly and Senate)
16	Australia	Parliament
17	Malaysia	Dewan Rakyat (Upper), Dewan Nagara (Lower)
18	Mongolia	Khurat
19	New Zealand	House of Representatives
20	Norway	Storting
21	Poland	Sejm
22	Romania	Grand National Assembly
23	South Africa	House of Assembly
24	Spain	Cortes
25	Sweden	Riksdag
26	Switzerland	Federal Assembly
27	Canada	Parliament (Lower House: House of Commons, Upper House: Senate)
28	Ireland	Althing

## World History

No.	Question	Answer
01	The first Olympiad was held in Greece in the year	776 BC
02	Rome was founded in the year	753 BC
03	The Great wall of China was built in the year	214 BC
04	The first voyage around the world was undertook by whom in 1522	Magellan
05	The first President of USA was	George Washington
06	Which Battle marked the end of Napoleon era	Waterloo
07	The American War of Independence was fought between	America and Great Britain
08	Adolf Hitler was also known as	Fuhrer
09	The first woman in world to become the Prime minister of a country was	Sirimao Bandara Naike
10	The Emperor of Germany who dismissed his Chancellor Bismark in 1888 was	William II
11	Two Presidents of USA were father and son. Their names were	John Adams & Quincey
12	The UNO came into existence in	1945 AD
13	The king of England before Elizabeth II was	George VI
14	Queen Elizabeth I ascended the throne of England in the year	1558 AD
15	The Statue of Liberty of New York was a gift from	France
16	Hitler's secret service was also known as	Gestapo
17	The last Emperor of Rome was	Romulus Augustus
18	Florence Nightingale was known as	Lady of the Lamp
19	Mao Tse Tung died in the year	1976 AD
20	In 1806, the Holy Roman Empire was dissolved by	Napoleon
21	The country which celebrates Independence day on 15th August, apart from India, is	South Korea
22	The first World War ended in	1918 AD
23	The US President who was forced to resign due to the Watergate scandal was	Nixon
24	The Second World War ended in	1945 AD
25	The first communist manifesto was issued in	1848 AD
26	The first Prime Minister of Independent Kenya was	Jomo Kenyatta
27	Malenkov became the Soviet Prime Minister after the death of	Stalin
28	The first British Prime Minister was	Sir Robert Walpole
29	The French revolution took place during the years	1789-1799 AD
30	The British Commander who surrendered before the Americans and French at York town in 1781 was	Lord Cornwallis
31	The American War of Independence was fought during the years	1775-1783 AD
32	Stalin became the Premiere of USSR in	1924 AD
33	Lenin was succeeded by	Stalin
34	In the Second World War, atomic bombs were dropped in Japan which destroyed	Hiroshima
35	Leningrad was built by	Peter I
36	White House, the residence of the President of the USA is located at	Washington DC
37	In European History, the year 1848 is known as	Year of Revolution
38	The first Prime Minister of Israel was	David Bengurion
39	The English King who was prepared to exchange his kingdom for a horse was	Richard III
40	Nixon was succeeded by	Gerald Ford
41	Nixon resigned in the year	1974 AD
42	The First World War broke out in	1914 AD
43	In the year 1959, Chinese occupied	Tibet
44	A big Naval expedition sent by Philip II against England was known as the	Spanish Armada
45	Magna Carta is also known as the	Bible of English Constitution
46	The king who was forced to sign the Magna Carta was	King John II

47 Winston Churchill died in the year 1965 AD  
48 Battle of Britain was fought in the year 1940 AD  
49 Hitler launched Operation Barbarossa in 1941 against the Soviet Union  
50 Bolshevik Revolution took place in 1917 AD  
51 Christopher Columbus died in the year 1506 AD  
52 De Champlain was a French Explorer  
53 China was also known as Chung hua  
54 Alexandria was founded by Alexander  
55 In the first Punic War fought in 264-261 BC, the Romans defeated Carthaginians  
56 Modern Parliament was introduced by Edward I  
57 The Disease which struck Europe in the 14th Century was Plague  
58 In the thirteenth Century, Russia was overrun by Mongols  
59 In 1260, the Mongol army was defeated by the armies of Islam at Ain Jalut  
60 Timur died in the year 1405 AD  
61 The first colony established by the English in north America was Jamestown  
62 Henry IV was assassinated in 1610 AD  
63 The War of the Grand Alliance was fought during 1689-97 AD  
64 The War of the Spanish succession was fought during 1701-14 AD  
65 In 1707, the two countries who became united were England and Scotland  
66 Napoleon crowned himself as Emperor in 1801 AD  
67 Napoleon brought a detailed revision of the French Legal System called as Code Napoleon  
68 In 1805, the French fleet was destroyed at The Battle of Trafalgar  
69 The unification of Italy took place during 1858-1870 AD  
70 The unification of Germany was carried-out during 1864-1870 AD  
71 In 1870, Germany waged war with France  
72 In 1822, the country which was declared an independent empire was Brazil  
73 Abraham Lincoln, the American President was a republican from Illinois  
74 The 1849 Gold-Rush was due to gold discovered at Northern California  
75 Between 1836-1847, USA was at war with Mexico  
76 In 1898, USA was at war with Spain  
77 In 1867, USA purchased Alaska from Russia  
78 In 1770, James Cook, the English Captain landed at Botany Bay of Australia  
79 Suez Canal was opened in 1869 AD  
80 In 1818, the Zulu Kingdom was founded by Shaka  
81 In 1911, Italy invaded Libya  
82 King Leopold was from Belgium  
83 The Union of South Africa was formed in 1909 AD  
84 In earlier times, Turkey was referred to as The sick man of Europe  
85 In 1877, Russia went to war with Turkey  
86 In July 1914, Austria invaded Serbia  
87 In August 1914, Germany attacked France  
88 In the first World War, German forces were defeated Grumbinnen by Russia  
89 In the first World War, Austria fought alongside Germany  
90 In the first World War, Austria & Germany were known as Central powers  
91 Finland Won Independence in 1917 from Russia  
92 In 1935, Italy attacked Ethiopia  
93 Benito Mussolini was the dictator of Italy  
94 Mein Kampf was written by Adolf Hitler  
95 Adolf Hitler was the dictator of Germany  
96 In a mass genocide, Hitler targetted The Jews

97 In 1939,Hitler and Stalin concluded the Nazi-Soviet Pact  
 98 The Bolschevik revolution occurred in 1917 AD  
 99 Franco came to power in Spain in 1939 AD  
 100 Hitler's Nazi party came to power in 1933 AD  
 101 In 1940,Germany defeated Poland  
 102 In 1940,Germany invaded France  
 103 Winston Churchill was the premier of Britain  
 104 In December 1941,Japan attacked Pearl Harbour  
 105 In June 1941,Hitler launched Operation Barbarossa  
 106 Operation Barbarossa was launched against Soviet Union  
 107 In 1942,Russians broke the German front at Stalingrad  
 108 In 1942,British defeated the Africa Corps at El Alamein  
 109 The Marshall Plan was launched in June 1947  
 110 The European Ecomic Community was formed in 1952 AD  
 111 The Berlin Wall was built in 1961 AD  
 112 In 1937,Japan attacked China  
 113 In the first World War, Japan allied with Germany  
 114 Pearl Harbour is located in Hawaii  
 115 During the first World War,America's President was Roosevelt  
 116 In February 1942,Singapore fell to Japan  
 117 Indonesia became independent in 1948 AD  
 118 Phillipines became independent in 1946 AD  
 119 Malaya became independent in 1957 AD  
 120 The Cultural Revolution was launched in China in 1966 by Mao Tse-tung  
 121 Prior to its Independence,Korea was a Colony of Japan  
 122 The Korean War was fought in 1950-53 AD  
 123 Tibet is presently occupied by China  
 124 During 1945-52,Japan was occupied by United States troops  
 125 In 1997,Hong Kong was reunified with China  
 126 Ghana became independent in 1957 AD  
 127 Before independence Ghana was a colony of Britain  
 128 The earlier name of Ghana was Gold Coast  
 129 Kenya became independent in 1963 AD  
 130 Zimbabwe became independent in 1976 AD  
 131 Before independence,Zimbabwe was a colony of Britain  
 132 Zaire became independent in 1960 AD  
 133 The earlier name of Zaire was Congo  
 134 Before independence,Zaire was under the control of Belgians  
 135 Before independence,Angola was under the control of Portuguese  
 136 The unpopular practise of South Africa was Apartheid  
 137 South Africa withdrew from the British Common Wealth in 1961 AD  
 138 In 1994,the African National Congress won the elections in South Africa under the leadership of Nelson Mandela  
 139 The popular leader of Cuba is Fidel Castro  
 140 In 1990,Iraq attacked and occupied Kuwait  
 141 In 1979,Afghanistan witnessed invasion by Soviet Union  
 142 Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty was signed in 1991 AD  
 143 During the Gulf War,Iraq fought under the leadership of Saddam Hussein  
 144 The Shah of Iran was overthrown in 1979 AD  
 145 Ayatollah Khomeini was the religious leader of Iran





## Airlines of the World

No.	Airline	Country
01	B.O.A.C.	ENGLAND
02	Air France	FRANCE
03	Lufthansa German Airlines	W.GERMANY
04	Pan American World Airways System	U.S.A.
05	Trans-world Airways	U.S.A.
06	Aero-flot	U.S.S.R.
07	Alitalia	ITALY
08	Quantas Empire Airways	AUSTRALIA
09	Air-India	INDIA
10	Sabena	BELGIUM
11	Arana Afghan Airlines	AFGHANISTAN
12	Cathay Pacific	HONGKONG
13	Finnair	FINLAND
14	Iberia	SPAIN
15	Japan Airlines	JAPAN
16	Garuda Airways	INDONESIA
17	KLM Royal Dutch	NETHERLANDS
18	Bruathens	NORWAY
19	Scandinavian Airlines System	NORWAY
20	Swissair	SWITZERLAND
21	Pakistan International Airlines	PAKISTAN
22	Royal Nepal Airlines	NEPAL
23	Air-Ceylon	SRI LANKA
24	Thai Airways International	THAILAND

## Buildings`

Adoble	A house made from sun-dried bricks of clay and straw - usually built in warm, dry climates like the south western U.S.
Apartment	A set of rooms in a building which usually contains other similar sets of rooms.
Barracks	A building or set of buildings used to house soldiers.
Boardinghouse	A house in which rooms are rented and meals are served in a common dining room.
Bungalow	A small house with a low,wide roof and a porch. It is usually one story high.
Chalet	A mountain house with a wide,overhanging roof and posts and beams. The style originated in Switzerland.
Chateau	A home for nuns.
Cottage	A small country home or summer house used for vacations.
Duplex Apartment	An apartment with two floors of living space.
Duplex House	A house divided into two living units.
Estate	A large country house with seperate buildings on a large tract of land.
Farmhouse	Thie dwelling for people who live and work on a farm raising animals or crops.
Flat	An apartment on one floor of a building.
Geodesic Dome	A large, flat-bottom boat used as a home.
Hogan	A building made of logs and mud, used by the Navaho Indians.
Igloo	A house built by Eskimos of blocks of ice. The name means "hot house".
Jacal	A thatched hut made of intertwined branches and mud, built in Mexico.
Konah	A large home in Turkey.
Lodge	A house usually located in a remote place and used for hunting or skiing.
Loft	An apartment in a warehouse or business building.
Log Cabin	A small house made of unhewn timber.
Manse	In Scotland, a house in which a minister lives.
Mobile Home	A trailor used as a permanent home and made without a permanent foundation.
Nissen Hut	A premade shelter with a semicircular arching roof of corrugated iron, and containing a cement floor.
Octagon House	A house with eight sides.
Palace	A large, grand building in which royally live.
Penthouse	A large apartment located at the top of building.

Quonest Hut     A premade, portable circular hut made of metal and used by the U.S. Army.

Rectory             The house in which a Roman Catholic priest or Episcopal clergyman lives.

Shanty   A shack.

Sod House         A house made of bricks of sod, which is earth with grass and its roots. In the 19th century, these were built on the American prairie where there were no trees. Just grassy land.

Studio Apartment     A one-room apartment with a kitchen and bathroom.

Tent     A portable house made of skins, Canvas, or nylon.

Tepee, Tipi         A cone-shaped portable home made of buffalo skins and tree saplings, used by the American Indians of the Great Plains.

Tenement`         A rundown, low-rent apartment building.

Underground House     An earth shelter built below the ground. The earth keeps the house warm in the winter and cool in the summer.

Villa     A large country or resort home.

Wigwarm         A hut with a frame made of poles and covered with bark, rush mats, or hides, used by American Indians.

Yurt     A circular, portable, hut used as a home by Asian shepherds. It is similar to the American wigwarm.

Zareba             An African fort made of thorny bushes.

## Religion and Culture

No.	Question	Answer
01	The Holy Book of Sikhs is known as	The Granth Sahib
02	Mahabharata is sometimes called as the	Fifth Veda
03	The Holy Book of Islam is	The Holy Koran
04	The duration of the Kurukshetra War was	Eighteen Days
05	The Holy Book of Christianity is	The Holy Bible
06	Jesus Christ was crucified in the year	29 AD
07	The original name given to Mahabharata was	Jaya
08	The founder of Buddhism was	Gautama Buddha
09	The founder of Christainity was	Jesus Christ
10	The founder of Islam was	Mohammed the Prophet
11	The founder of Sikhism was	Guru Nanak Dev
12	The language in which Gautama Buddha preached was	Magadhi
13	'Mimamasa Sutra' was written by	Jamini
14	Swami Vivekananda, in his younger days, was known as	Narendranath
15	Swami Vivekananda participated in a conference of World Religions held at	Chicago
16	Ayurveda literally means	Science of life
17	The Ramakrishna Mission was started by	Swami Vivekanand
18	The Indo Greek king who adopted Buddhism was	Menander
19	The most ancient Veda is	Atharva Veda
20	The last Guru of Sikhs was	Guru Govind Singh
21	The sacred scripture of Parsis is	Zhend Avesta
22	Adi Shankaracharya was born in	Keladi(Kerala)
23	Trivendrum is also known as the	Holy city of Anatha
24	The king who was famous for always speaking the truth was	Raja Harishchandra
25	How many Vedas are there	Four
26	How many Puranas are there	Eighteen

- 27 How many Upanishads are there Twelve
- 28 Bhishma was also known as Gangeya
- 29 The Govardhan Mutt at Puri in Orissa was established by Adi Shankaracharya
- 30 Dronacharya's son was Ashwathama
- 31 The language in which the sacred scriptures of Buddhism are written is Pali
- 32 The founder of Dharma Shastra was Bodayana
- 33 The famous saint who called his wife as his mother Goddess was Ramakrishna Paramahansa
- 34 The Muslim saint who is considered as the Special Protector of children is Shah Madar
- 35 The earlier name of Bhishma was Devarat
- 36 The three famous epics of India are Ramayana, Bhagavata and Mahabharata
- 37 "Satyarth Prakash" was written by Dayanand Saraswati
- 38 The Buddhist temples in Burma are known as Pagoda
- 39 Gayatri Japa was composed by Vishwamitra
- 40 The Bhagavata was narrated to king Parikshit by Suka Maharishi
- 41 The Ramayana written by Tulasidas is called Rama Charita Manasa
- 42 Gautama Buddha was born in Lumbini
- 43 Chinese Buddhism is also known as Sushrutha Samhita
- 44 Gautama Buddha is also known as The Light of Asia
- 45 The place of worship of Hindus is The Temple
- 46 The place of worship of Christians is The Church
- 47 The place of worship of Muslims is The Mosque
- 48 The place of worship of Sikhs The Gurudwara
- 49 The place of worship of Parsis The Fire Temple
- 50 Jesus Christ was born in the year 4 BC
- 51 The Head of the Roman Catholic Church is known as The pope
- 52 Songs sung in the praise of God are known as Hymns
- 53 The God of agriculture in Roman Mythology is Saturn
- 54 Gautama Buddha's original name was Siddhartha
- 55 Shiva is considered as the god of Creation and destruction

- 56 Brahma is considered as the god of Creator
- 57 Ramayana was written by Valmiki
- 58 Buddha attained enlightenment in Bodh Gaya
- 59 Chaitanya was devoted to Lord Krishna
- 60 Artha Shastra was written by Chanakya
- 61 Kautilya was the real name of Chanakya
- 62 Moin-ud-din Chisti is a Sufi Saint
- 63 Mahavira is also known as Vardhamana
- 64 Kumarasambhava was written by Kalidas
- 65 Raghuvamsa was written by Kalidas
- 66 Mahabharata was translated in Tamil by Rajaji
- 67 Mahabharata was translated into Persian by Mir Ghiasuddin Ali Qazbini
- 68 Lingaraj temple is located in Bhubaneshwar
- 69 Lord Jagannath temple is located in Puri
- 70 Tirupathi is famous for Sri Venkateshwara Temple
- 71 Gaya is a pilgrimage place for Hindus
- 72 Gaya is located in Bihar
- 73 Lord Mahavir breathed his last at Pawapuri
- 74 Bodh Gaya is located at Bihar
- 75 Bodh Gaya is sacred place for Buddhists
- 76 The Shrine of Saibaba is located at Temple of Lord Krishna
- 77 Ajmer is a pilgrim centre for Muslims
- 78 Varanasi is a famous pilgrimage centre for Hindus
- 79 River Ganga is sacred for Hindus
- 80 Ayodhya is located in Uttar Pradesh
- 81 Jama Masjid is located at New Delhi
- 82 Lotus Temple is located at Delhi
- 83 Mangesh temple is located at Goa
- 84 Somnath is located at Gujarat

- 85 The largest Church in Asia is Se Cathedral
- 86 Meenakshi temple is located at Madurai
- 87 India's biggest Mosque is Jama Masjid, Delhi
- 88 Golden Temple was built in 1577 AD
- 89 Badrinath is located in Uttar Pradesh
- 90 Sarnath is pilgrimage centre for Buddhists
- 91 Sun temple is located at Shri Govindajee temple
- 92 Lonavla is famous for Buddhist Caves
- 93 The Great Stupa is located at Sanchi
- 94 The birth place of Adi Shankaracharya is Kaladi



## Space Research in India

The first Indian-developed rocket was Rohini-RH 75. It was launched from the Thumba equatorial rocket Launching Station (Kerala) in 1967. Its purpose was to conduct meteorological experiments.

For carrying out experiments on the celestial x-ray sources a Centaure rocket was successfully launched from the Thumba Station (in Kerala) in 1968.

**Sriharikota Range (SHAR) :** It is the second rocket launching station set up at Sriharikota Island in Nellore District of Andhra Pradesh. It serves as a rocket launching base and is used for testing rockets developed at the Science and Technology Centre at Thumba.

The first satellite of India named Aryabhata (weight 360 kg.) was launched from Russia in 1975 by means of a Russian rocket. India's second Satellite, Bhaskara-I was launched in 1979. Bhaskara-II was launched in 1981.

**SLV-3 :** The main objective of the SLV-3 project (Satellite Launch Vehicle Project) was to gain experience in the design, development and launching of vehicles capable of placing scientific and experimental satellites in near earth orbits.

**Rohini-I (RS-I, weight 35 kg.) :** the first Indian satellite put into a near-earth orbit successfully from SHAR in 1980 by the second experimental Launching of SLV-3.

**Rohini-II (RS-II, weight 35 kg.) :** was injected from SHAR by the SLV-3 rocket on its first developmental flight in 1981. It was originally designed to live for 300 days but met its premature end after nine days due to its unexpectedly low orbit.

**APPLE (Ariane Passenger Payload Experiment) :** It is India's first geostationary experimental communication satellite which was put into an elliptical orbit in 1981 from French Guyana by Ariane rocket of European Space Agency (ESA).

**INSAT-I (Indian National Satellite-I) :** It is a series of geostationary satellites planned by India. The INSAT-I satellites are designed to meet the telecommunication, telecasting, radiobroadcasting and meteorological requirements of India. All of them are designed for a life span of seven years.

**INSAT-IA :** the first satellite of the series Launched in 1982 was switched off after 150 days due to malfunctioning.

**INSAT-IB :** was launched in 1983 from the US space shuttle "Challenger". Its functions are : weather surveillance and beaming of telephone calls and television across India. Weather monitoring including advance warning of floods and cyclones is rendered possible through its meteorological payloads.

**ANURADHA :** It is an Indian instrument which was taken into orbit (and retrieved successfully) by the US space shuttle "Challenger" in 1985. The experiment was designed to study particles coming from outer space, mainly to understand where they come from. These particles are ions of helium and [oxygen](#) with low energies.

**Experimental Satellite Communications Earth Station :** India's first station was set up at Arvi near Pune.

The second such station was commissioned in 1977 at Dehra Dun (U.P.). It is meant to improve substantially the country's overseas telecommunication facilities.

**Indo-Soviet joint space flight :** Squadron leader Rakesh Sharma became India's first man in space on April 3, 1984, when he was launched aboard Soyuz T-11 spaceship from the U.S.S.R. along with two Soviet cosmonauts. India is the 14th nation to have sent its citizen into space.

## Countries & Towns Rename

No.	Old Name	New Name
01	Bechuanaland	Botswana
02	Ceylon	Sri Lanka
03	Malaya	Malaysia
04	Mesopotamia	Iraq
05	Persia	Iran
06	S.Rhodesia	Zimbabwe
07	Siam	Thailand
08	Madagaskar	Malagassy
09	Formosa	Taiwan
10	Cambodia	Kampuchea
11	Angora	Ankara
12	Abyssinia	Ethiopia
13	Baroda	Vadodara
14	Batavia	Jakarta
15	Bechuanaland	Botswana
16	Bombay	Mumbai
17	Burma	Myanmar
18	Constantinople	Istambul
19	Congo	Zaire
20	Dacca	Dhaka
21	Dahomey	Benin
22	Gold Coast	Ghana
23	N.Rhodesia	Zambia
24	Panjim	Panaji
25	Peking	Beijing
26	Rangoon	Yangon

- 27 South West Africa Namibia
- 28 Salisbury Harare
- 29 Zanzibar & Tanganyika Tanzania

## Fine Arts

No.	Question	Answer
01	The Persian epic Shahnama was written by	Firdausi
02	Mohenjadaro literally means	Mound of Corpes
03	The Classic "Measure for Measure" was written by	William Shakespeare
04	The composer of Geet Govind was	Jayadev
05	By the middle of the 1st century, the city that was famous for fine arts was	Pataliputra
06	The first Cartoonist to win the B.D.Goenka Award was	R.K.Laxman
07	The magazine started by M.Karunanidhi was	Murasoli
08	Shakespeare's last play was	The Tempest
09	Bismillah Khan is a famous	Musician
10	Bismillah Khan specialises in	Shahnai Vadan
11	The famous museum located in Hyderabad is	Salarjung
12	Vinoba Bhave, author, started a famous movement known as	Bhoodan Movement
13	Geetha Pravachan in Marathi was written by	Vinoba Bhave
14	The ancient Buddhist University Nalanda was located in the state of	Bihar
15	The architectural style in which Taj Mahal is built is	Indo persian
16	Rabindranath Tagore won the Nobel Prize for his book	Gitanjali
17	Tamil Ramayanam was authoblack by	Kambar
18	The oldest collection of stories in India is	Kathasaritsagara
19	The instrument played by Ustad Ali Akbar Khan is	Sarod
20	The Biography of Dr.Samuel Johnson was written by	James Bosewell
21	Subramanya Bharthi was a noted	Poet
22	K.V.Subbabba, who won the Magsaysay Award was from	Heggodu, Karnataka
23	The heroine of the film 'Cleopatra' was	Elizabeth Taylor
24	"Bhagvatgeet" the movie which won the Lotus Award was made in which Language	Sanskrit
25	The only Indian actor to have received the Oscar award is	Satyajit Ray
26	Bhimsen Joshi is associated with	Hindustani Music

27 The B.C.Roy National Award for the year 1981 was received by Dr.Harindranath Chattopadhyaya  
28 National Anthem of India was written by Rabindranath Tagore  
29 The first film of Ashok Kumar was Jeevanayya  
30 The dancer who,inspite of losing one leg,dances and acts in films is Sudha Chandran  
31 The studio owned by Raj Kapoor and his family is R.K.Studios  
32 The author cum adventurer Thomas Edward Lawrence was famous for Lawrence of Arabia  
33 William Wordsworth was also known as Nature's Poet  
34 Robert Benchley acted in the film Author  
35 A comedian who insublack his nose for Ten lakh dollars was Jimmy Durant  
36 The earlier name of film star Devanand was Dharam Devanand  
37 The real name of Dilip kumar is Yusuf Khan  
38 Bala Gandharva was a famous Stage actor  
39 Bala Gandharva was so named by Bal Gangadhar Tilak  
40 The lead role in Tamil film Nayakan was played by Kamala Hasan  
41 Hollywood is located in California,USA  
42 The book 'Life Divine' was written by Aurobindo  
43 The editor of the book 'Indian Cartoons' is Abu Abraham  
44 Canterbury Tales was written by Chaucer  
45 Orthography means the art of Correct Spelling  
46 The book "Mad,Mad,Mad,World of Indian Cinema" was written by K.A.Abbas  
47 The National Gallery of Modern Art is located at New Delhi  
48 "Les miserables" was written by Victor Hugo  
49 The first opera ever performed was Persi Dafni  
50 The word "Opera" means Works  
51 Henrik Isben's first play was Catalina  
52 The only comedy written by Jean Racine was Les Plaideurs  
53 'Rip Van Wrinkle' was written by Washington Irving  
54 The 1995 Jnana Peeth Award was won by M.T.Vasudevan Nair  
55 The 1997 Booker Prize was won by Arundathi Roy

56 "Love's Labour Lost" was a play by Shakespeare

57 The Roman Magsaysay Award 1997 was won by Mahasweta Devi

58 The collection of Short Stories entitled "Mortal Coils" was written by Aldous Huxley

59 The play "Enemy of the People" was written by Hensik Isben

60 The first cinema theater was established at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania

61 The first cinema theater was established in the year 1905 AD

62 In the play 'Macbeth', the king of Scotland is Duncan

63 Kesari, a Marathi daily was started by Bal Gangadhar Tilak

64 The one-eyed giant who appeared in Greek mythology was Cyclops

65 "Ajax" was written by Sophocles

66 "Antigone" was written by Sophocles

67 "Aparajito", a Bengali film, was directed by Satyajit Ray

68 The Piano was discovered by Guido Arezzo

69 Sense and Sensibility was written by Jane Austen

70 Rabindranath Tagore was popularly known as Gurudev

71 The author who used a new pen every time he sat down to write a poem was Alexander Dumas

72 The French author who could work only in a darkened room was Emil Zola

73 The writer who was known as the 'Wizard of the North' was Walter Scott

74 The noble prize winning novel "The Good Earth" was written by Pearl S. Buck

75 Mickey Mouse & Donald Duck, the cartoon characters were created by Walt Disney

76 Pablo Picasso was from Spain

77 The Comic Character "Tarzan" was created by Edgar Rice Burroughs

78 Bernard Shaw wrote the "Far Fetched Fables" at the age of 93 years

79 The first full-length feature film was The Great Train Robbery

80 The first full-length feature film was made in the year 1903 AD

81 The Tansen Awards are given to Musicians

82 The Character 'Gulliver' was created by Jonathan Swift

83 Gulliver's first name was Lemuel

84 Treasure Island was written by Robert Louis Stevenson



- 85 The person who is known as father of Carnatic Classical music is Purandaradasa
- 86 `King Solomon's Ring' was written by Konard Lorenz
- 87 The town which is known as the home of violin making is Cremona,Italy
- 88 Wilkie Collins was a famous Author
- 89 Raghuvamsu was written by Kalidasa
- 90 `The Lady of the Lake' was written by Walter Scott
- 91 The final book Caesar's Gallic War was written by Aulus Whiskers
- 92 The `Riddle of the Sands' was written by Robert Erskine Childers
- 93 The Highest National Award given every year to the best book in india is Jnanapith Award
- 94 John Masefield was a famous Poet
- 95 The title of Mahatma Gandhi's autobiography was My Experiments with Truth
- 96 `Malgudi Days' was written by R.K.Narayan
- 97 `Guide' was written by R.K.Narayan
- 98 The Novel `Moon and Six Pence' was written by W.S.Maugham
- 99 `Kanthapura' was written by Raja Rao
- 100 `Das Capital' was written by Karl Marx
- 101 Arabian Nights was translated into Sanskrit by Jagadbandu Pandit
- 102 The first recipient of Bharatiya Gnanpith Award was G.Shankara Kurup
- 103 The language in which Samuel Becket wrote most of his plays was French
- 104 Dr.Masti Venkatesha Iyenger won the Gnanpith Award for his book Chikaveerarajendra
- 105 The famous singer who collapsed and died on the stage during a performance was Leonard Warren
- 106 `A thing of beauty is joy forever' was said by Keats
- 107 The 1966 Gnanpith Award was won by Tara Shankar Nandopadhyaya
- 108 The 1967 Gnanpith Award was won by Uma Shankar Joshi & Dr.K.V.Puttappa
- 109 The 1968 Gnanpith Award was won by Sumitra Nandhanpant
- 110 In 1982,Arun Shourie won the Ramon Magsaysay
- 111 The Music instrument that Ravishankar plays is Sitar
- 112 Anandmath was written by Bankim chandra
- 113 The Classic `Around the World in 80 days' was written by Jules Verne

- 114 Babar's Autobiography "Babarnama" is written in the language Turkish
- 115 Who is considered as the most famous playwright in English after William Shakespeare George Bernard Shaw
- 116 The popular comedian Charlie Chaplin was from Britain
- 117 Panchatantra was written by Vishnu Sharma
- 118 The world's smallest theatre Piccolo is in Hamburg, West Germany
- 119 The seating capacity of the World's smallest theatre Piccolo is Thirty
- 120 The first Russian author to receive the Nobel Prize was Ivan Atseyevich
- 121 The Heroine of the famous classic 'Gone with the Wind' was Sarlet O'Hara
- 122 The title of Dr. Salim Ali's autobiography is Fall of Sparrow
- 123 The first actress of Indian screen was Kamalabai Gokhale
- 124 Tansen, the famous musician was once defeated by another musician whose name was Baiju Bawra
- 125 Pablo Picasso derived his surname from His mother
- 126 The 1992 Bhartiya Gnanpith Award was won by Naresh Mehta
- 127 The 1997 Dada Saheb Phalke Award was won by Kavi Pradeep
- 128 The Three Musketeers was written by Alexander Dumas
- 129 Sarojini Naidu is more popularly known as Nightingale of India
- 130 The author of the book 'Cricket My style' was Kapil Dev
- 131 The book "Unto this Last" was written by John Ruskin
- 132 K.L. Saigal was a famous Singer
- 133 Bharat natyam originated in Tamilnadu
- 134 Late Mahadevi Verma received the Jnanpith Award for her book Yama
- 135 The recipient of the Dada Saheb phalke Award for 1997 was Shivaji Ganesan
- 136 The first novel written by R.K. Narayan was Swami & his friends
- 137 The lady who is Story writer, film actress, film Producer, singer, film director and music Director and who hails from Andhra Pradesh is P. Bhanumathi
- 138 Father and son who won the Dada Saheb Phalke Award was Prithvi Raj Kapoor & Raj Kapoor
- 139 'Life of Mahatma Gandhi' was written by Louis Fisher
- 140 The instrument used by Amir Khusro was Sarod

- 141 The real name of the famous writer Mark Twain is Samuel Clemens
- 142 Harsha Charita was written by Bana Bhatta
- 143 the full name of R.K.Narayan was Rasipuram Krishna Swamy Ayyar Narayan

## **Scientific Instruments**

1. Aerometer : Instrument for measuring weight and density of air and gases.
2. Altimeter : Instrument used in aircraft to measure altitude.
3. Ammeter : Instrument used to measure electrical current flowing in a circuit.
4. Anemometer : Instrument to measure the force and velocity of wind.
5. Audiometer : Instrument to measure intensity of sound.
6. Barometer : Instrument used to measure the atmospheric pressure.
7. Calorimeter : Instrument used for measuring quantities of heat.
8. Cardiogram : A medical instrument for tracing heart movements.
9. Crescograph : Instrument for use in recording growth of plants.
10. Dynamo : Instrument for transforming mechanical energy into electrical energy.
11. Fathometer : Instrument used for measuring depth of the ocean.
12. Geiger Counter : Instrument for recording the amount of radiation emitted by a source of radio-activity.
13. Hydrometer : Instrument used for measuring the specific gravity of liquids
14. Hydrophone : Instrument used for recording sound under water
15. Hygrometer : Instrument for measuring the amount of water vapours (humidity) in the atmosphere.
16. Kymograph : Instrument used to record graphically various physiological movements i.e., blood pressure, heart beating, study of lungs etc. in living beings.
17. Lactometer : Aparatus used for measuring the purity of milk.
18. Manometer : Apparatus used for determining the pressure of a gas.
19. Odometer : Instrument by which the distance covered by wheeled vehicles is recorded.
20. Oscillograph : Instrument for recording electrical or mechanical vibrations.
21. Photometer : Apparatus used to compare the illuminating power of two sources of light.
22. Pyrometer : Instrument for recording high temperatures from a great distance.
23. Radiometer : Instrument for measuring the emission of radiant energy.
24. Rain gauge : Apparatus for recording of rainfall at a particular place.
25. Refractometer : Instrument to measure refractive indices.
26. Saccharimeter : Instrument for determining the amount of sugar in a solution.

- 27. Sextant : An optical instrument used for finding out the altitude of celestial bodies and their angular distances.
- 28. Sphygmomanometer : Instrument used for measuring arterial blood- pressure.
- 29. Spherometer : Instrument for measuring curvature of surfaces.
- 30. Seismograph : Instrument used for recording earthquake shocks.
- 31. Tachometer : Instrument for determining speeds of aeroplanes and motor boats.
- 32. Thermostat : Instrument used to regulate the temperature to a particular degree.
- 33. Transformer : An electrical apparatus used to convert high voltage to low and vice versa

## Science

No.	Question	Answer
01	The theory of relativity was propounded by	Albert Einstein
02	The principal metal used in manufacturing steel is	Iron
03	An alimeter is used for measuring	Altitude
04	Oology is the study of	Birds eggs
05	Radioactivity was discovered by	Henry Bacquerel
06	The metal used in storage batteries is	Lead
07	The instrument used to measure the relative humidity of air is	Hygrometer
08	Barometer was invented by	Torricelli
09	The unit of power is	Watt
10	Radium was discovered by	Marie and Pierrie Curie
11	The existence of isotopes was discovered by	Frederick Soddy
12	Dynamo was invented by	Michael Faraday
13	The nuclear reactor was invented by	Enrico Ferni
14	The law of gravitation was propounded by	Sir Isaac Newton
15	Crescograph was invented by	J.C.Bose
16	Crescograph is used to measure the	Rate of growth of a plant
17	Galileo's first scientific discovery was	Pendulum
18	Microscope was invented by	Aaton Van Leewen Hock
19	The scientist who is known as father of modern biology is	Aristotle
20	The first person to see a cell under microscope was	Robert Hooke
21	The smallest flowering plant is	Worffia
22	The four blood groups were discovered by	Karl Landsteiner
23	Sodium was discovered by	Sir Humphry Davy
24	The atomic number of <a href="#">oxygen</a> is	Eight
25	The basic building blocks of proteins are	Amino acids

26	The botanical name of the cotton plant is	Gossipium Hirsutum
27	An Electroscope is used to	Detect charges on a body
28	The unit of loudness is	Phon
29	An ammeter is used to measure	Electric current
30	Plant that eat insects are called	Insectivorous plants
31	Fruits that are formed without fertilization are called	Parthenocarpic
32	Plants that flower only once in their lifetime are called	Mono carpic
33	The botanical name for rice is	Oryza Sativa
34	Penicillin is obtained from	Mould
35	The largest tree in the world is	Sequoia Gigantica
36	Herpetology is the study of	Reptiles
37	Entomology is the study of	Insects
38	Ornithology is the study of	Birds
39	Ichtyology is the study of	Fishes
40	Osteology is the study of	Bones
41	The botanical name for brinjal is	Solanum melongenal
42	The botanical name for onion is	Allium Cepa
43	The study of <a href="#">sound</a> is called	Acoustics
44	The study of heavenly bodies is called	Astronomy
45	The study of tissues is called	Histology
46	Electric Lamp was invented by	Thomas alva Edison
47	The fear of crowd is called	Ochlophobia
48	The fear of books is called	Bibliophobia
49	The fear of going to bed is called	Clinophobia
50	The symbol of gold is	Au
51	The symbol of sodium is	Na
52	The symbol of Sr stands for	Strontium
53	The symbol Rb stands for	Rubidium



54	The symbol Md stands for	Mendelevium
55	Calcium sulphate is commonly called	Plaster of Paris
56	Sodium carbonate is commonly called	Washing Soda
57	Sodium chloride is commonly known as	Common Salt
58	The chemical name of Chloroform is	Trichloromethane
59	The chemical name of baking powder is	Sodium bicarbonate
60	The chemical name of bleaching powder is	Calcium hypochlorite
61	The formula HCL stands for	Hydrochloric Acid
62	The formula H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> stands for	Sulphuric Acid
63	The formula CHCl <sub>3</sub> stands for	Trichloromethane
64	The formula H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> stands for	Hydrogen peroxide
65	A fungus which can only survive on other living organisms is called	Obligate Parasite
66	A plant which lives in the dark is called	Scotophyte
67	A plant adapted to live in dry places is called a	Xerophyte
68	A plant adapted for growth in water is called a	Hydrophyte
69	Bifocal lens was invented by	Benjamin Franklin
70	Cement was invented by	Joseph Aspdin
71	Laser was invented by	Dr.Charles H.Townes
72	Electromagnet was invented by	William Sturgeon
73	Rayon was invented by	Sir Joseph Swann
74	Thermostat is an instrument used for regulating	Constant temperature
75	The science of organic forms and structures is known as	Morphology
76	Phycology is the study of	Algae
77	Tata Institute of Fundamental Research was established in	1945
78	CSIR stands for	Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
79	ISRO stands for	Indian Space Research Organisation

80	The first human being to land on moon was	Neil Armstrong
81	The first Indian in space was	Rakesh Sharma
82	ISAC stands for	ISRO Satellite Centre
83	VSSC stands for	Vikram Sarabhai space Centre
84	The headquarters of ISRO is located at	Bangalore
85	VSSC is located at	Thiruvananthapuram
86	ISAC is located at	Bangalore
87	National Science Centre is located at	New Delhi
88	Central Tobacco Research Institute is located at	Rajahmundry
89	Indian Institute of Horticultural Research is located at	Bangalore
90	The Atomic Energy Commission was set up in	August 1948
91	The first Indian Satellite was	Aryabhata
92	The first Indian Satellite was launched in the year	1975
93	ASLV stands for	Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle
94	INSAT stands for	Indian National Satellite
95	The fear of women is known as	Gynophobia
96	The fear of men is known as	Androphobia
97	The scientist who developed the Quantum theory was	Max Plonck
98	The steam engine was invented by	James Watt
99	The botanical name of tea is	Camellia Sinensis
100	Logarithms were devised by	John Napier
101	The acid used in a car battery is	Sulphuric acid
102	The system for writing by blind people was invented by	Louis Braille
103	The parachute was used for the first time by	J.P.Blanchard
104	The German physicit who first demonstrated the existence of Radio waves was	Henrich Hertz
105	The instrument that records the intensity of earthquakes is	Seismograph

106	The laws of floating bodies was discovered by	Archimedes
107	The density of milk is measured by a	Lactometer
108	Fountain pen was invented by	L.E.Waterman
109	The instrument used to measure the pressure of gases is the	Monometer
110	Bhaskara I was a famous	Astronomer
111	The first atomic power station established in India was the	Tarapore Atomic Power Station
112	The role of heredity was demonstrated by	Mendel
113	The instrument used to measure the concentration of salt water is the	Salinometer
114	Spectroscopy is the study of	Anders John Angstrom
115	Dactylography is the study of	Finger Prints
116	A tangent galvanometer is used to study the	Strength of direct current
117	The fruit of Oak is called	Acron
118	ZETA stands for	Zero Energy Thermonuclear Assembly
119	The formula $C_6H_5OH$ stands for	Phenol
120	Michael Faraday worked as an assistant under another scientist whose name was	Sir Humphry Davy
121	Vulcanised rubber was invented by	Charles Goodyear
122	The symbol Zn stands for	Zinc
123	The symbol He stands for	Helium
124	Celluloid was invented by	A.Parker
125	Glider was invented by	Sir George Caley
126	Safety matches was invented by	J.E.Lundstrom
127	Radio valve was invented by	Sir J.A.Fleming
128	Space Applications Centre is located at	Ahmedabad
129	Atomic Energy Commission is located at	Mumbai
130	Dynamics is the study of	Movements of bodies
131	Statics is the study of	Forces acting on bodies at rest

132	Mechanics is the study of	Forces acting on bodies
133	Zoology is the study of	Animal life
134	Botany is the study of	Plant life
135	Psychology is the study of	Human mind
136	The first American to orbit earth was	John H.Glen
137	The electro-cardiograph was invented by	William Einthoven
138	The molecular formula of cane sugar is	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>11</sub>
139	A compound which contains only hydrogen and Carbon is called a	Hydrocarbon
140	The liquid used to preserve specimens of plans and animals is	Formalin
141	The law of segregaton was propounded by	Mendel
142	Auriscope is used to detect	Ear disorders
143	The three states of matter are	Solid,liquid and gas
144	The scientific name for blood platelets is	Thrombocytes
145	The response of a plant to heat is called	Thermotropism
146	The response of a plant to touch is called	Trigmotropism
147	The symbol Zr stands for	Zirconium
148	Nickel was discovered by	Cronstledt
149	Manganese was discovered by	Gahn
150	The common name for pottasium carbonate is	Potash

No.	Question	Answer
151	Bismuth was discovered by	Valentine
152	The biggest plant seed is	Cocodemer
153	Toxicology is the study of	Poisons
154	Virology is the study of	Viruses
155	Paleontology is the study of	Fossils
156	Calorimeter is used to measure	Quantity of heat
157	Chronometer was invented by	John Harrison
158	Stethoscope was invented by	William Stockes

- 159 Spinning frame was invented by Sir Richard Arkwright
- 160 Al stands for Aluminium
- 161 Gd stands for Gadolinium
- 162 Ir stands for Iridium
- 163 Bi stands for Bismuth
- 164 The Chemical formula of sodium bicarbonate is  $\text{NaHCO}_3$
- 165 The chemical formula of common salt is  $\text{NaCl}$
- 166 The chemical formula of washing soda is  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$
- 167 The chemical formula of lime soda is  $\text{CaCO}_3$
- 168 The chemical formula of chloroform is  $\text{CHCl}_3$
- 169 The study of grasses is known as Agrostology
- 170 The study of antiquities is known as Archaeology
- 171 The study of the duration of life is known as Chronobiology
- 172 The study of bacteria is known as Bacteriology
- 173 Nylon was invented by Dr. Wallace H. Carothers
- 174 Electric razor was invented by Jacob Schick
- 175 The symbol of silver is Ag
- 176 The symbol of silicon is Si
- 177 The symbol of titanium is Ti
- 178 Calcium oxide is commonly known as Quick lime
- 179 A deviation of light passing from one medium to another is known as Refraction
- 180 An apparatus for generation of atomic energy is called a Reactor
- 181 A machine used for converting mechanical energy into electrical energy is called a Generator
- 182 The first Indian woman in space was Kalpana Chawla
- 183 The revolver was invented by Samuel Colt
- 184 The refrigerator was invented by J. Perkins
- 185 Which is the only common metal that is liquid at room temperature? Mercury
- 186 When a fire is caused by an electric short circuit, why must you not throw water? If you throw water on a fire caused due to short circuit, you may be electrocuted because water is a good conductor of electricity.

- 187 Why do we see lightning much before we hear thunder? This is because light travels much faster than sound. Light travels @  $2.99 \times 10^8$  m / sec (2,99,000 km/sec) whereas sound travels @ 333 m/sec.
- 188 Which planet is the closest to the Sun? Mercury
- 189 Which is the hottest planet? Venus
- 190 How much time does the earth take to complete a revolution around the sun? 365 % days.
- 191 Why are whales hunted? For the blubber or the oil in them.
- 192 Where do platypuses live? In burrows near water.
- 193 How many days does the moon take to go round the earth?  $27 \frac{1}{3}$  days.
- 194 Among the insects that are extant, (that are living still), which is the most ancient? Cockroach.
- 195 What is meant by fulcrum? Fulcrum is the point about which a bar or lever will rotate, when a force is applied at any distance from that point or axis.
- 196 What kind of leaves do silkworms thrive on? Mulberry leaves.
- 197 Why is it dangerous to look at the sun during an eclipse? During solar eclipse, the ultraviolet rays are in such high proportion in sunrays, that they can cause irreparable damage to the eye.
- 198 How does a Pitcher Plant eat flies? A Pitcher Plant is hollow and tubular. The surfaces are slippery and they have hairs, which point downwards. When an insect lands on a pitcher plant, it is impossible for it to escape because of the slippery surface and the downward-pointed hairs. It is then easily digested.
- 199 What is the Indian name for the planet Mercury? Budha.
- 200 Where in India do the migratory cranes of Siberia settle down? The Rann of Kutch.
- 201 How many arms does a starfish have? Usually five.
- 202 What is a solar eclipse? The moon comes in between the sun and the earth, and thereby prevents sunlight from reaching the earth.
- 203 Who first saw mountains and craters on the moon using a telescope? Galileo Galilei
- 204 Which is the largest animal on land? African Elephant.
- 205 Why does a rhinoceros spend so much time in mud? To keep cool and protect itself from insect bites.
- 206 Which country first used fingerprints to identify people? Assyria and China.
- 207 In which country was silk first made? China.
- 208 What is cholesterol? Cholesterol is a fat found in the human body and the body of other large animals. In its pure form it looks like white sugar. It is made up of tiny crystals, which can be seen under a microscope. It is said that too much cholesterol in the blood is responsible for the hardening of arteries and for various other heart ailments.
- 209 How did the watch get its name? From the fact that you have to watch it to know the time.

- 210    What is vulcanisation of rubber?            The process of hardening rubber by adding sulphur and heating the mixture is vulcanisation. Vulcanisation was discovered by Charles Goodyear. Raw rubber is sticky. It hardens when the temperature is low and softens when it is high. Charles Goodyear discovered that by combining raw rubber with sulphur and by heating it, the rubber becomes stronger and elastic and also resistant to solvents. Today almost all rubber, whether natural or synthetic is vulcanized.
- 211    When faced with danger what does a Pangolin do?            It rolls into a ball.
- 212    Where is the entrance to a baya's nest?    At the bottom of the nest.
- 213    What is glass made from?            Limestone, Silica and Soda ash.
- 214    What is the microscopic study of plant and animal tissue called? Histology.
- 215    How does a mariner's compass help the mariner?            The needle of the compass always points towards the magnetic north pole. This indicates the direction in which the ship is moving.
- 216    Which is the second largest planet in our Solar System? Saturn.
- 217    How many weeks after birth does the young one of a cat opens its eyes? Three weeks.
- 218    The arms of the Octopus have sucker cups. What is the use of these cups?            To hold onto a surface.
- 219    What food does a bear love most?            Honey.
- 220    How did the Romans rub off what was written on a wooden slate coated with wax?            By heating the slate, the wax was melted. The slate became ready to reuse.
- 221    What are seashells?            Outer casings of soft-bodied animals, called molluscs.
- 222    How is a pearl formed within the body of an oyster?            A pearl is formed when a grain of sand or other foreign matter gets between the hard outer shell and the inner coat called the mantle, of a mollusc. The mollusc surrounds the irritation with nacre, a secretion from the mantle. Many thin layers of nacre give the pearl its lustre.
- 223    How much time does Pluto take to complete a revolution around the sun?            248 years.
- 224    What is a Catamaran?    A boat with twin parallel hulls. [From the Tamil words katta and maram, meaning tied up (katta) tree (maram).
- 225    How many ears does a spider have?            None.
- 226    How much time does light take to reach the earth from the sun? 8 minutes.
- 227    What is acceleration?    The time rate at which the velocity of a point is changing is acceleration. Velocity is just the speed (miles per hour or kilometres per second). The term acceleration is used when the speed keeps increasing. The term deceleration is used when the speed becomes less and less.
- 228    How does a spider eat its food? The spider inserts his fangs into the victim's body and uses them as straws to suck out the liquid.
- 229    Who invented the telescope?    Hans Lippershey.
- 230    Why do people living in the deserts prefer white colour for their robes?    White coloured robes do not absorb light, whereas dark-coloured clothes absorb the light and conduct heat to the body.



- 231     What is common to dolphins and humans?     They are both mammals.
- 232     In which country was the day first divided into 12 parts? Babylon (modern Iraq).
- 233     How does a rocket move forward?     It moves forward due to propulsion. You must have seen that a boatman pushes the water backwards with his oar. This creates a force in the forward direction. This is propulsion. Newton's third law of motion states action and reaction are equal and opposite. In a rocket when hot gases come out of the rear with great force as a result of combustion, a force is created in the opposite direction. This takes the rocket forward.
- 234     What are the things necessary to start a fire?     Heat, fuel and oxygen.
- 235     How many legs does a butterfly have?     Six.
- 236     Who invented the aeroplane heavier than an air machine that could fly?     Orville and Wilbur Wright.
- 237     Who invented the modern lift?     Elisha Otis.
- 238     Why can't cranes perch on trees branches?     They cannot curl their toes. As a result they cannot have a firm grip on a branch.
- 239     Ancient Sumenans used to write on clay. How could this writing be preserved?     By baking the tablets. This would remove the moisture from the tablets and harden them.
- 240     How big are the tusks of an Indian female elephant?     Indian female elephants do not have tusks.
- 241     Bats cannot see. Then how do they move about? They emit sounds of low intensity, which are reflected from the objects around them. This helps the bats to move about.
- 242     How does a frog catch an insect?     It throws out its tongue, which is sticky and catches the insects.
- 243     What is a Portuguese Man of War?     A name commonly applied to jelly fish, found in tropical seas.
- 244     Why are oceans important to man?     They enable man to travel to distant corners of the world. They also provide food, oil and minerals.
- 245     What is the transparent portion in front of the eyeball called?     Cornea.
- 246     What is the meaning of the pecking order?     Pecking order is an example of hierarchy among animals, particularly hens. In a coup containing hens and cocks, the seniormost cock can peck at all the other hens and cocks in the coup. A hen can peck at others weaker than it, but must permit pecking by senior members in the hierarchy.
- 247     Who made trains run by steam engine popular?     George Stephenson
- 248     How are volcanoes caused?     Deep under the crust of the earth is molten rock or lava, also called magma. It is under great pressure because of the intense heat around it and the weight of the earth's crust. When this hot boiling mass finds an outlet in the underside of the earth's crust, it comes through the surface as lava.
- 249     What is a male ant called?     Drone.
- 250     How can a frog make such a loud sound?     As the frog forces air from the lungs, vocal chords in the voice box (larynx) vibrate to make calls, distinctive of its species. The bulls of some species have air sacs, which help, increase the volume of the sound.
- 251     Who was the first man on the moon?     Neil Armstrong.

- 252 What is peristalsis? Peristalsis is a type of movement occurring in the hollow organs of animals, which causes their contents to be pushed ahead.
- 253 What are the main differences between an Indian elephant and an African elephant? The African elephant is much larger in size. Its ears as well as tusks are larger than those of an Indian elephant.
- 254 What is it that silkworms weave around themselves? Cocoon.
- 255 Why did Dr. Lister use carbolic acid to cover wounds? To prevent infection.
- 256 What is the juice of the rubber plant called? Latex
- 257 Why does the ostrich eat sand or gravel? To digest its food.
- 258 Which discovery made soap-making a big industry? It was discovered (in 1787) that caustic soda can be made from common salt. Since soap is made from caustic soda and fat, manufacturing soap became cheaper.
- 259 Who invented the Gramophone? Thomas Alva Edison
- 260 Which is the largest living bird? Ostrich.
- 261 Why didn't the British plant rubber in England? Rubber grows only in tropical countries.
- 262 Why do tigers turn into man-eaters? When tigers become old or are incapacitated because of injury, they prey on human beings. A tiger that has preyed on man and has tasted human flesh often continues to prey on man.
- 263 What was called Penny-farthing? The cycle whose front wheel was much larger than the rear wheel. It was invented by James Starley. It was derisively named penny-farthing after the largest and smallest English copper coins of the period.
- 264 Why does not the moon have an atmosphere? Even if it had some atmosphere, its mass is so low that gravity on the surface is not enough to retain the atmosphere.
- 265 Name the animal that has the largest eyes in the world? The Atlantic Giant Squid, about 30 cm wide.
- 266 Who invented the four-stroke Motorcar engine? Nikolaus Otto.
- 267 What are meteorites? They are rocks or pieces of rocks that enter the atmosphere and are usually burnt out before landing on earth. Some large meteorites can crash against the surface of the earth and cause damage.
- 268 What did ancient Romans think lightning was? Jupiter's weapon.
- 269 Are the soldier ants male or female? They are all female.
- 270 What is the nest of a penguin made of? Pebbles.
- 271 What are the characteristics of a parasitic plant? They cannot produce their own food and obtain food from other sources.
- 272 What keeps the sun so hot? A reaction similar to that of a hydrogen bomb takes place continuously in the sun. Two atoms of hydrogen fuse at high temperatures to form an atom of helium. Immense heat is released in this reaction.

- 273 What is meant by Binary System? We carry out everyday calculations, using the decimal system, with the numbers 1 to 9 and zero. The binary system uses only two numbers 0 and 1. An electric current can be switched on and off using off for 0 and on for 1. Any number can be represented in the binary system.
- 274 Which was the first spaceship launched by man? Sputnik-I, launched by the Russians
- 275 What kind of nests do owls build? They don't build nests. They use hollows in trees for laying eggs.
- 276 Why is polished rice less healthy than unpolished rice? The husk of food grains (rice, wheat, etc) has Vitamins, much of which are lost when the grains are polished.
- 277 Which Psychologist devised the IQ test? Alfred Binet.
- 278 Who discovered Radium? Pierre and Marie Curie.
- 279 What is the approximate temperature deep inside the sun? 14 million degrees C.
- 280 What are Epiphytic plants? Plants that grow on other plants for support. These plants however do not take nourishment from the host.
- 281 Sometimes the eagle spits out pellets from its mouth. What are they? Bones and fur of the prey that are left after the food is digested.
- 282 What does a ruminant mean? Ruminant is an animal that chews its cud and has a four-chambered stomach. When food is swallowed by a ruminant, it passes into the rumen or paunch, where it is stored, while the animal eats. Chewing and digestion are carried out at leisure. The food passes from the rumen to the reticulum, where it is formed into small masses and pushed up to the mouth to be chewed. When it is swallowed a second time it takes a different route. Gastric digestion takes place and the food passes into the intestine.
- 283 Who discovered the Planet Uranus? Sir William Herschel.
- 284 Who invented Television? John Logic Baird.
- 285 How do dolphins communicate with each other? By producing screeching sounds.
- 286 Who was the first woman to travel in space? Valentina Tereshkova.
- 287 What are clouds made of? Tiny droplets of ice or water.
- 288 What is the disease that causes dogs to turn mad? Rabies.
- 289 Who conducted the first controlled fission reaction (that led to the making of the atom bomb)? Enrico Fermi.
- 290 Which was the first satellite launched by India? Aryabhata, in 1975.
- 291 What is Dry Ice? Solid Carbon Dioxide.
- 292 Who invented the Radio? G. Marconi (Jagadis Chandra Bose has also been credited with this discovery but his claim has not been recognised).
- 293 What was the theory of the atom put forward by Rutherford? Rutherford put forward the theory that every atom consists of a tiny nucleus with a positive charge, surrounded by electrons. The electrons are far apart from the nucleus and from one another.

- 294 Of which element is diamond made of? Carbon.
- 295 The Pit Viper has poor eyesight. Yet it can locate its prey accurately. How? It has heat sensory cells in the pits between the eye and the nostril, which detect warm-blooded animals.
- 296 Who first propounded the theory of Evolution of Man? Charles Darwin.
- 297 From which elements is steel made? Iron and Carbon.
- 298 Which instrument is used for measuring humidity? Hygrometer.
- 299 If you speak loudly on the moon, approximately how far can your voice travel? Sound waves need a medium in which they can travel. The atmosphere on the moon is negligible. Hence your voice cannot travel any distance.
- 300 What is the difference between Toads and Frogs? Toads have a dry warty skin while frogs have a smooth moist skin.

No.	Question	Answer
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| 301. | Who first discovered that water was produced by burning hydrogen?                                  | Henry Cavendish.   |
| 302. | What are the parts of a comet?   | Nucleus, coma and tail.  |
| 303  | Why are the blades of the fan slightly curved?   | If you wish to carry sand or any solid substance from one place to another, you can carry little if there are straight metal strips. A pail can carry much more. In the case of air, which is a fluid, a slightly curved blade is enough to help circulate air in the room.  |
| 304  | What is absolute zero temperature?   | Absolute zero is the temperature at which thermal energy (energy related to heat) vanishes. It corresponds to -273.15 degrees, on the Celsius scale.   |
| 305  | Who is considered the father of plastic surgery in ancient India?                                  | Sushruta. He is best known for the operations he performed called rhinoplasty (remodelling of the nose).   |
| 306  | What are isotopes?   | Isotopes are different forms of an element with the same number of protons, but a varying number of neutrons in the nucleus of an atom. All elements consist of atoms. Atoms have a nucleus, which consists of proton or protons and neutrons. They usually have as many electrons as protons, continuously whirling around the nucleus. Hydrogen has two naturally existing isotopes - one with only a proton and no neutron in its nucleus and another with a neutron and a proton. The first one is commonly known as hydrogen. The second one is rare and is called deuterium or heavy hydrogen. A third isotope, called tritium, is artificially produced. Tritium has one proton and two neutrons. |
| 307  | Who discovered the cause of malaria?   | Ronald Ross.   |
| 308  | Which planet has a moon named Titan?   | Saturn.  |
| 309  | Name the largest bone in the human body.   | Femur (in the thigh).  |
| 310  | What is the source of all energy on earth?   | The sun.   |
| 311  | What was the name of the instrument used by Jagadis Chandra Bose to measure sensitivity of plants? | Crescograph.   |

- 312 How long do banyan trees live? Banyan trees seem to live for hundreds of years. Aerial roots develop from its branches and they take root in the soil. Over the years these roots turn into sturdy trunks, which too grow roots and the cycle continues. It is said that the entire army of Alexander had taken shelter under one such banyan tree.
- 313 Which part of the plant do you eat when you eat carrots? Roots.
- 314 Who was the first man to travel in space? Yuri Gagarin.
- 315 What is reinforced concrete? Reinforced concrete is ordinary concrete which has steel rods fixed in it.
- 316 What is meant by latent heat? Heat absorbed when a substance changes its state without changes in temperature, e.g. water boils at 100°C. When we heat it further the temperature is not raised but the heat is absorbed.
- 317 In ancient India shells of a sea-animal were used as money. What were they called? Cowries.
- 318 How does spraying kerosene on marshes reduce mosquitoes? A film of oil is produced which prevents the larvae of the mosquitoes from having access to the oxygen in the atmosphere.
- 319 How many bones are there in an adult human being? 206.
- 320 Who is considered to be the father of Geometry? Euclid.
- 321 What is the study of sound called? Acoustics.
- 322 Which was the first satellite India launched from Indian soil using an Indian launch vehicle, SLV3? Rohini Satellite (RSI).
- 323 What are bacteria? Where are they found? Bacteria formerly classified as plants are now classified separately as Prokaryotes. They are so small that we can see them only with a microscope. They are found almost everywhere. Bacteria cause and spread diseases, but there are many bacteria that are helpful to man. Bacteria are responsible for converting grape juice into wine and milk into curd.
- 324 What is the name of the instrument that records heart beat? Cardiograph.
- 325 Who discovered the connection between magnetism and electricity? Hans Christian Oersted.
- 326 Who discovered the presence of neutrons in the nucleus of elements? Physicist James Chadwick.
- 327 At what temperature does water become ice? Zero degrees on the Celsius scale.
- 328 What do deciduous trees mean? Trees that shed leaves in autumn are called deciduous trees.
- 329 The electric discharge of which fish is the most powerful? South American Electric Eel.
- 330 What is the name for power generated from water? Hydroelectricity.
- 331 How is sound produced? Basically sound is produced when a vibrating body sets air molecules in motion. Musical instruments produce sounds by vibrating strings. The vibration and waves that are produced reach the ear, which passes the vibrations to the brain. To test this take a steel tumbler and tap on it with a metallic spoon. Sound is produced. Hold the edge of the tumbler between two fingers. The sound stops. This illustrates the importance of vibration in producing sound.

- 332 How are motion pictures made? When the eyes see an image, they hold onto it in the form of a visual memory for a fraction of a second after it is gone. In a motion picture, the projector flashes still pictures quickly in succession. The usual numbers of pictures that are projected per second are 24. Because of persistence of vision, the picture seems to be one continuous moving picture.
- 333 From which part of the plant, is ginger that we eat obtained? From the stem.
- 334 Who was the first person to find out that microscopic organisms are responsible for milk, wine, etc turning sour? Louis Pasteur.
- 335 What is the meaning of the word Hippopotamus? River Horse.
- 336 Who invented the Hovercraft? Christopher Cockerell.
- 337 Who discovered Vitamins? Christopher Eijkman - though he did not use the word, vitamin.
- 338 Who coined the word Vitamin? Casimir Funk.
- 339 Why does the planet Mars appear red? Due to the highly oxidised surface of the planet.
- 340 Name the Vitamin that prevents night blindness. Vitamin A.
- 341 Where do sea plants obtain carbon dioxide to manufacture their food? From dissolved gases
- 342 Who is considered as the father of modern Medicine? Hippocrates.
- 343 How does an Octopus camouflage itself? By changing its colour and merging with the background.
- 344 Who first proved that lightning is an electric charge coming down to the earth? Benjamin Franklin.
- 345 What are cosmic rays? Cosmic rays are radiation from outer space, which bombard the earth. They constantly strike the molecules of the earth's upper atmosphere. As a result, additional radiations are produced. The atmosphere absorbs most of these rays.
- 346 What is a cocoon? It is a silk case, that covers a caterpillar before it becomes a moth (butterfly). After the caterpillar is completely wrapped in its cocoon, it sleeps through the winter.
- 347 What does the acronym LASER stand for? Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation.
- 348 How is cement obtained? Heating a mixture of limestone and clay.
- 349 Name the only mammal, other than man, that can walk upright? Gibbon.
- 350 Which disease is caused by insufficiency of iodine in the diet? Goitre.
- 351 What are molluscs? A class of animals with a soft body and no bones.
- 352 Which animal has the longest life span? Tortoise.
- 353 How is the glow of a firefly caused? When certain proteins get oxidised, in the presence of an enzyme called luciferase, light is produced. Fireflies have special light organs on the underside of the abdomen. Here in the presence of luciferase, light is produced.
- 354 Who first enunciated the laws of heredity? Gregor Johann Mendel

- 355     What does the acronym, SONAR, stand for?     Sound Navigation and Ranging.
- 356     What are comets?     Comets are heavenly bodies that travel around the sun. When they are near the sun, they look like stars with long glowing tails. Halley's comet appears once in about 76 - 78 years. Some comets appear near the sun only once in millions of years. A comet has a head, which looks like a star. The head is surrounded by a coma or a fuzzy hood. The tail may be millions of kilometres long.
- 357     Why does a metal rod feel cooler than a piece of wood?     Metals are good conductors of heat. When we touch a metallic rod, it takes away the heat from the hand and feels cooler. A piece of wood is a bad conductor of heat and therefore it does not take away the heat from our hands.
- 358     Why does a jet of water come out of a whale's back?     It is air, exhaled by the whale.
- 359     How many teeth do sheep have on their upper jaw?     None.
- 360     How are helicopters useful in rescue operations?     A helicopter can move up, take off or land easily from small clear areas. Hence they are useful in dropping food or rescuing stranded people. It has a rotor, which enables it to rise up or go down, vertically.
- 361     How can lizards walk on walls?     The base of their paws has cuplike structures that stick to the walls. This enables them to move even on walls.
- 362     How does a perfume spread to the corners of any room even though there is no breeze?     Molecules of oxygen, nitrogen and other gases in the air keep on spreading all around them.
- 363     Where does light fall inside the eye?     Retina.
- 364     Chlorine is very injurious to health. So is sodium. The table salt we use is sodium chloride. Why is it not dangerous to health?     It must be noted that a compound formed from two or more elements need not have a single property of its constituent elements. Sodium and Chlorine combine to form table salt, which is healthy (in small amounts). Water, which sustains life, is formed from hydrogen and oxygen. The properties of hydrogen as well as oxygen are not found in water.
- 365     How does a frog breathe under water?     Through its skin.
- 366     What is the difference between a tortoise and a turtle?     Tortoise is the name applied to the terrestrial species and turtle is the name applied to the aquatic species.
- 367     What is meant by sublimation in chemistry?     Conversion of a substance from solid state to vapour state (without the intervening liquid state) is sublimation. For example, iodine sublimates from its solid state to vapour.
- 368     What are the sieve like plates in a whale's mouth called?     Baleens.
- 369     Why do people cover ice slabs with sawdust?     Sawdust is a bad conductor of heat and slows down the melting of ice.
- 370     Why are droplets formed on the outer surface of a glass when cold water is poured into it?     The moisture in the air condenses on the cool outer surface of the glass.
- 371     Why is food preserved in a refrigerator?     Most bacteria are destroyed as the temperature of the surroundings rises. Temperatures higher than 40° C do not favour growth of bacteria. Similarly low temperatures prevent bacteria from multiplying. Hence food is preserved in the refrigerator by keeping its contents at low temperature.



- 372 Why do we feel sleepy after a heavy meal? The blood circulation to the digestive tract increases. As a result the blood circulation to the brain is reduced. This makes us sleepy.
- 373 Which organs in the human body filter waste products from the blood? Kidneys.
- 374 Which organs are most damaged when a person consumes much liquor? Liver and stomach.
- 375 What does Aurora mean? Bright patches of light are seen at high latitudes above 60° north or south. They are named Aurora Borealis (northern lights) or Aurora Australis (southern lights) depending on their position. The term "Aurora Polaris", polar lights, is a general name for both. The aurora consists of rapidly shifting patches and dancing columns of light of various hues.
- 376 Which vitamins are soluble in water? Vitamins of the B and C group.
- 377 What is the composition of perspiration? Mostly water with a little salt.
- 378 Which gland in the human body produces insulin? Pancreas.
- 379 What is the principal enzyme in the gastric juice? Pepsin.
- 380 What is the vaccination given to prevent polio? Salk Vaccine. It was discovered by Jonas Edward Salk in 1952. The theory behind the Salk Vaccine is that a virus that has been killed cannot infect or multiply, but it can still produce antibodies against that particular virus. The vaccine was tested first on monkeys and eventually on children, including Dr. Salk's three children, before it was released for nationwide distribution.
- 381 What are Pachyderms? Animals with thick skin like elephants and rhinoceros.
- 382 Why is it that some people have a dark skin? The dark colour of the skin is due to a pigment called melanin. On exposure to sunlight, man's skin undergoes gradual tanning to protect the skin from injurious solar rays.
- 383 Which Vitamin helps in preventing rickets? Vitamin-D.
- 384 Which is the second most common element on the earth's surface? Silicon.
- 385 Which planet is known as the red planet? Mars.
- 386 What does a lizard do when its life is in danger? The lizard discards its tail to divert the attention of its enemy.
- 387 Why is the housefly considered a health hazard? On their legs they may carry millions of germs. When they rest on a food plate, these may be transferred to the object they rest on.
- 388 Which metal is also called quicksilver? Mercury.
- 389 What is the main food of a Koala bear? Eucalyptus leaves.
- 390 If hair is dead tissue, how does it grow? It is true that hair consists of Keratin, a dead tissue. But the hair is lodged in a follicle located a little below the scalp, which is very much alive. This is where the growth takes place. The living hair pushes up the dead tissue. That living tissue also dies and is pushed up. Pull out a hair and you will feel pain and understand the truth of this statement.
- 391 What is meant by Acid Rain? When there is a substantial amount of sulphur dioxide, carbon dioxide, etc in the rain, it is referred to as acid rain.

- 392 What is the common food of the Blue Whale? A shrimp like creature called krill.
- 393 What is Betelgeuse? It is one of the brightest stars visible in the night sky, It is in the constellation, Orion. It is also called Alpha Orionis, It takes about 300 years for the light from Betelgeuse to reach the earth.
- 394 How long do elephants live? 65 to 100 years.
- 395 What do a koala bear, opossum, wombat and bandicoot have in common? They are all Marsupials, i.e. they carry their young ones in pouches.
- 396 Name the person who first discovered the presence of Microbes. Anton Van Leeuwenhoek.
- 397 How do mother animals recognize their babies? By their smell.
- 398 Why do water pipes burst in hill stations? There is an unusual expansion of water, when its temperature goes below 4° C. Instead of contracting, the water begins to expand till ice is formed at zero degrees Celsius. Unable to bear the pressure, the pipe bursts.
- 399 Which animal shoots its quill and hurts the enemy? Porcupine.
- 400 Who made the first electric motor? Michael Faraday.
- 401 Who first used electrolysis for isolating elements? Sir Humphry Davy.
- 402 Who first put forward the Atomic Theory that all matter is made of atoms, held together by some force of attraction? John Dalton.
- 403 Is it true that the age of a tree can be known by studying its rings? Yes, each year during spring a light ring grows just inside the bark of the tree. During summer and autumn, the ring that grows is darker. Too little sunlight, too little moisture or injury results in a smaller and darker ring. After counting the rings, we can assess the age of the tree.
- 404 How does the rotation and revolution of the earth affect our lives? The earth rotates on its axis even while it revolves around the sun. The rotation results in night and day. As the earth revolves around the sun, it also tilts on its axis. This tilt causes changes in the earth's position, which results in the seasons.
- 405 Who found out that oxygen is present in both water and air? Antoine Lavoisier.
- 406 Which Vitamin is important for the health of bones? Vitamin D.
- 407 Why do animals like rats and squirrels keep gnawing at things? Gnawing helps wear down their teeth. If they did not gnaw at things their teeth would keep on growing.
- 408 Who was the first woman of Indian origin to travel in a space vehicle? Kalpana Chawla.
- 409 Why does a snake flick its tongue so often? To smell the surroundings.
- 410 What is the scientific name for man? Homo Sapien.
- 411 Who is considered to be the father of modern experimental science? Galileo Galilei.
- 412 What is the name of our galaxy? Milky Way.
- 413 How is petroleum formed? Remains of plants and tiny animals that lived millions of years ago remain buried and turn into petroleum.

- 414 What is a mirage? How is it caused? A mirage is a reflection, caused by the bending of light rays. When we ride along highways particularly in arid regions, we see a reflection ahead, which looks like water. This is caused by a dense layer of warm air near the surface of the earth. Light rays from the sky are reflected toward one's line of vision - what one sees is a reflection of the sky and not water.
- 415 How is oxygen formed in the atmosphere? In the presence of chlorophyll, a chemical reaction takes place in the leaves using carbon dioxide in the air and water transported from the roots. As a result of the chemical reaction, starch is produced. Oxygen is the by-product of this reaction.
- 416 Which is the juice secreted in the liver which helps digestion? Bile.
- 417 What is meant by the word 'frequency' of a sound? Frequency is defined as the number of vibrations per second. It must be noted that sound is caused as a result of vibrations in air columns or strings or objects. Sound travels in waves.
- 418 Which is the longest poisonous snake in the world? King Cobra
- 419 What is the tendency of plants to grow towards sunlight called? Phototropism.
- 420 Why do snakes shed their skin? Unlike human beings, whose growth stops around 20 years, snakes keep on growing. This becomes possible because they keep casting off old skin and develop new skin, when the old one is shed.
- 421 Why does it take longer to cook food at high altitudes? The atmospheric pressure at high altitudes is much lower than at sea level. The greater the pressure, the faster the cooking.
- 422 What is the use of the ozone layer in the earth's atmosphere? It bounces off ultraviolet radiation.
- 423 How do we get heat and light from the sun? Through radiation.
- 424 How do insects breathe? Insects breathe through the tiny holes in their body.
- 425 Why doesn't ice sink in water? Ice is lighter than water. After the temperature of water cools down to 4° Celsius (instead of contracting) water keeps on expanding till it reaches 0° Celsius and becomes ice.
- 426 Apart from earth on which other planet in the solar system does life exist? Nowhere else. As we know it.
- 427 What is meant by the Water Table? Water filters down the surface of the ground and is absorbed and stored by soil and rocks in a zone of saturation. The top of this zone is called Water Table. During drought, the Water Table too goes down.
- 428 Who is known as the father of computers? Charles Babbage.
- 429 Why do we feel hungrier in winter? In winter we need energy to maintain the body temperature in addition to sustaining normal activities of the body. To meet this requirement of energy we eat more.
- 430 Can you give an example of reflex action? Knee jerk. It is the involuntary kick caused by a blow on the tendon just below the knee.
- 431 What is an electrocardiograph? The electrocardiograph is an electrical instrument, which records the activity of the heart muscle. As the heart beats, several activities take place in a regular order. The electrocardiograph records changes that occur in a regular order, during a complete heartbeat.
- 432 Which bird can rotate its head by 180 degrees on either side? The Owl.

- 433 Man, dogs, cats, horses have lungs through which they breathe. How do smaller animals like fish, earthworm, etc obtain their requirement of oxygen? Earthworms also respire. They use their moist skin to exchange carbon dioxide for oxygen. The fishes use their gills to respire. Even frogs in the tadpole stage use their skin for respiring. Reptiles such as snakes and turtles and even birds breathe through lungs.
- 434 What are the uses of snake venom? It is helpful in curing many ailments affecting the nervous system.
- 435 What is the major element a star is made of? Hydrogen
- 436 Where does a female butterfly lay its eggs? Under side of leaves.
- 437 Who invented the miner's safety lamp? Sir Humphry Davy.
- 438 Name the world's largest rodent and where is it found. Capybara found in the Amazon jungles of South America.
- 439 What is the chemical name of baking soda? Sodium Bicarbonate.
- 440 What is Telepathy? Telepathy is direct communication of thought from one person to another, without using any physical channels of communication. Though there are many who claim telepathy is possible, there has been no positive proof of the existence of telepathy.
- 441 What is ultrasound? Human beings cannot hear sound waves which have frequencies above 20,000 vibrations per second. This is termed ultrasound.
- 442 Who was the scientist who initiated the Atomic Energy Programme of India? Homi Bhabha.
- 443 Who invented the rigid airship? Ferdinand Von Zeppelin.
- 444 Who invented the calculator? Blaise Pascal.
- 445 From which element was the first Atom Bomb made? Uranium 235.
- 446 Who invented the diesel engine? Rudolf Diesel.
- 447 Who made the first locomotive that had successful runs? George Stephenson.
- 448 What is paper made of? Mainly wood pulp.
- 449 Name the Chinese method of curing ailments by using needles? Acupuncture.
- 450 What causes rusting? How can it be prevented? Metals like iron are often exposed to moisture. Rusting is the process of oxidation occurring when the iron and air slowly combine to form iron oxides. Oil is often used to slow down rusting. When a coat of paint or varnish is given to a metal, this also prevents (reduces) oxidation.
- 451 What is Googol? Googol is the number one followed by a hundred zeros.
- 452 Which are the only mammals that can see colours? Man and monkey (apes). It is commonly believed that bulls react violently when they see a red rag. Bulls just cannot see any colour. They react to the teasing movement of the rag.
- 453 Why does an apple that has been cut open turn brown and then black? Polyphenols in the apple get oxidised.

- 454 Why does the liquid in the egg become solid when heated or boiled? Due to congealing - coagulation of the yolk.
- 455 What is the green colour of the leaf due to? Chlorophyll.
- 456 How many days does Mercury take to complete one rotation on its axis? 59 earth days.
- 457 What are aerial roots? Roots that grow down from the branch of a tree. The banyan tree is a good example.
- 458 What is Halley's comet? The Halley's comet is named after the English astronomer Edmund Halley. The theory of gravitation developed by Isaac Newton helped Halley to discover that the bright comet that appeared in 1682 had an orbit that brought it back to the inner solar system at regular intervals.
- 459 Why is helium used in gas balloons? Because helium is very light and does not burn.
- 460 What is plastic surgery? Plastic surgery is surgery performed on someone's face or body to remove a deformity or to make it more attractive.
- 461 How can the moon which is very small, cover the sun which is very big, during an eclipse? The sun is far far away compared to the moon, Therefore even though the sun is very large, the moon can cover it. Even a coin can cover the moon, if held close to the eye.
- 462 What is the Archimedes Principle? It is a law of physics that states that when an object is totally or partially immersed in a fluid, it experiences an upward thrust equal to the weight of the fluid displaced. The principle is most frequently applied to the behaviour of objects in water, and helps to explain floating and sinking and why objects seem lighter in water.
- 463 What is meant by a refracting telescope? A refracting telescope is made by using two lenses, both of which are convex.
- 464 What are corals? They are combined skeletons of tiny marine animals, which live together in a colony.
- 465 What is the distance between the earth and the sun? About 150 million kilometres.
- 466 Why does water in an earthen pot become very cool in summer? Earthen pots have tiny holes from which water seeps out to the surface. When this water evaporates, it takes away the latent heat of vaporisation and keeps the pot (and its contents) cool.
- 467 Why do dogs pant? To keep themselves cool. When they throw out the tongue while panting, the moisture in the tongue evaporates. This directly results in cooling. Humans keep themselves cool by sweating and then evaporation of the sweat, from a large surface of the skin.
- 468 Which important mineral is to be found in spinach? Iron.
- 469 What does milking of poisonous snakes mean? It means drawing out poison from the serpents for medical use.
- 470 Who first isolated Sodium? Sir Humphry Davy.
- 471 What is a robot? Robot is any machine, developed by man to do the work of a human being such as running a machinery by remote control or to operate devices like switch boards automatically. It is usually directed by sound waves, light waves or radio waves.
- 472 What is moulting? Moulting takes place because of a number of reasons. Birds discard old feathers for new ones. This is also referred to as moulting. Snakes keep on growing, unlike human beings whose growth stops after

attaining adulthood. The snakes discard their skins for a new one. Lobsters, crabs, etc have a hard covering outside the body to support. The animal then breaks out of the old cover and quickly grows before the new chitin already recreated by the tissues underneath, can harden. Frequently during such periods, the animal hides, since it has no protection then.

- 473 In which organ of the human body are the lymphocyte cells manufactured? Spleen.
- 474 Which are the distinct layers of the skin? Dermis and Epidermis.
- 475 Who invented the printing machine? Johan Gutenberg.
- 476 Who pioneered the use of antiseptic? Joseph Lister.
- 477 What is the name of the gland that produces tears? Lachrymal Gland.
- 478 What is the name of the bacteria that converts milk into curd? Lactobacillus.
- 479 What does DPT stand for? Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus. DPT is a combined vaccine for diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus.
- 480 What does a Hydrometer measure? Density of liquids.
- 481 Why is the rainbow seen only during and after the rain? This is so because the rain drops serve like prisms and diffract the white light of the sun into violet, indigo, blue, green, yellow, orange and red colours.
- 482 What is meant by a radio telescope? From their telescopes, astronomers could study objects in outer space that could not be seen with the naked eye. Radio telescopes are telescopes that can study long waves, which are not visible. They can do this using antenna, since radio waves are much longer than light waves. To be effective, radio telescope needs to be much larger than ordinary optical telescope,
- 483 What is smog? Smog is a mixture of solid and liquid fog and smoke particles. Fog is formed when the humidity is high. The word smog is derived from smoke + fog.
- 484 What is the name of the layer in the atmosphere of the earth that protects the earth from harmful radiation? The ozone layer.
- 485 What is the name of the radiation that comes from outer space? Cosmic Rays.
- 486 For the protection against which disease is the B.C.G vaccination given? Tuberculosis (T.B)
- 487 What are Sunspots? Areas where the sun's surface is slightly cooler than normal - about 4000 degree C instead of 6000 degrees C.
- 488 What is the scientific name for Vitamin C ? Ascorbic Acid.
- 489 Name the galaxy that is nearest to our galaxy. Andromeda Galaxy.
- 490 Who invented the Barometer? Evangelista Torricelli.
- 491 In the human body what is the end product of protein digestion? Amino acids.
- 492 Who gave the name rubber to the gum of the Hevea

tree? Joseph Priestley. Because the gum could rub out pencil marks.

493 What are salivary glands? Salivary glands are located in the mouth. There are three pairs, one pair is located in front of the ears, one pair is located underneath the lower jaw and the third is under the tongue. Salivary glands secrete an enzyme called ptyalin, which helps in the digestion of starches. Saliva has an alkaline action. If you see many players chewing gum, it is because when a person is tense, the stomach produces more acids. The saliva, produced by chewing gum, neutralizes this acid.

494 Why do crocodiles shed tears? They secrete the excess salt in the body through this action. They get rid of this by means of a gland near the corner of the eyes.

495 What is Bronze? An alloy of copper and tin.

496 What is the meaning of the word "DINOSAUR"? Terrible lizard.

497 What is Brass? An alloy of Copper and Zinc.

498 Which element is important for the health of bones? Calcium.

499 Which Vitamin helps in preventing rickets? Vitamin D.

500 What is the name for the position of the moon, an earth satellite, when it is at the greatest distance from the earth? Apogee.

501 What is the study of weather and climate called? Meteorology.

502 Name the unit in which electric current is measured? Ampere.

503 What are the four stages in the development of a butterfly?

a) Egg

b) Larva

c) Pupa

d) Butterfly

504 Who invented the Radio? G. Marconi.

505 What is meant by Hibernation? Many animals sleep or go into a trance-like state during the long, winter months. This winter sleep is called hibernation. Polar bears go into hibernation in winter.

506 What is meant by Escape Velocity? It is the minimum initial velocity required for an object to escape the gravitational attraction of an astronomical body, and to continue travelling away from it without the use of further effort.

507 Which present day animals are said to be direct descendants of dinosaurs? Komodo dragon and Crocodile.

508 Who invented the military tank? Ernest Swinton of Britain.

509 What is the study of birds called? Ornithology.

510 Who was the founder of the system of medicine known as Homoeopathy? Samuel Hahnemann.

511 From which ore is Aluminium made? Bauxite.



- 512 How does a plant transfer nutrients it absorbs through its roots to other parts? Through tiny tubes called Xylem.
- 513 Who discovered the planet Uranus? William Herschel.
- 514 Kidneys help the body to eliminate waste. Which other parts of the human body do the same? Lungs, skin and rectum.
- 515 Why is a soap bubble always spherical and not a square or a triangle?
- When a soap bubble forms and goes up in the air, it is subject to immense pressure from all sides. Only a spherical shape can withstand maximum pressure. That is why soap bubbles are always spherical.
- 516 Who discovered the circulation of blood in the human body? William Harvey, in 1628. People did not believe in what Harvey said and they opposed his ideas. It took many years for the opposition to die down.
- 517 What is meant by centrifugal and centripetal force? If a ball is whirled at the end of a string in a circular motion, it would seem as if the ball were suddenly very heavy and pulling harder as it is whirled faster. The force of the string pulling the ball toward the centre is the centripetal force. There is an outward force on the string by the ball. This outward force is the centrifugal force.
- 518 How much blood does an average adult human being have? About 6.5 litres.
- 519 Who wrote the book on "The Origin of species by means of Natural Selection"? Charles Darwin.
- 520 Which is the most destructive insect in the world? Desert Locust.
- 521 Who invented the sewing machine? Elias Howe of USA in 1845.
- 522 What are the substances that can cause cancer called? Carcinogens.
- 523 What is meant by Photosynthesis? Photosynthesis is the word used for making food from carbon dioxide in the air and water from the soil, in the presence of sunlight. It occurs in plants.
- 524 What is meant by colour blindness? Inability to distinguish one or more of the primary colours.
- 525 Who discovered the Laws of Motion? Sir Isaac Newton,
- 526 Who invented the Telegraph? Samuel Morse.
- 527 What is a Supernova? A star, which suddenly burns up a lot of its matter and gives a brilliant light.
- 528 How many chromosomes does a man have in his body cell? 46.
- 529 Why is selenium used in the making of photoelectric cells? Photoelectric cells convert light into electricity. Selenium is used in making these cells because its electrical conductivity increases when light strikes it and because it can convert light into electricity.
- 530 For which invention or process is Henry Bessemer best known? Bessemer converter used for making steel.
- 531 Who was the first man to study sunspots? A German by name Hienrich Schwabe.
- 532 Mercury is closest to the sun, then how come Venus is the hottest planet? Venus has thick clouds around it that prevent heat from escaping from its surface.

- 533 Which planet rotates the most slowly on its axis? Venus
- 534 How does a microwave oven work? Water molecules vibrate and rub against each other, producing heat because heat is produced by these molecules and an external source of heat is not required for cooking in a microwave.
- 535 Who produced the world's first petrol driven car? Karl Benz.
- 536 Why does the running sound of a train change when it passes over a bridge? Sound travels in the form of waves. The frequency of the waves and the amplitude (the width) of the waves determine the sound. The sound waves are of different kinds, when a train moves on solid ground, and when it moves on a bridge, whether made of steel or plain concrete.
- 537 What is a photometer? An instrument for measuring the intensity of light.
- 538 What is meant by Radio carbon dating? Scientists describe the radioactivity of an element in terms of half-life - the time the element takes to lose half of its radioactivity through decay. By measuring the radioactivity scientists can calculate the age of the element that is being tested.
- 539 What is the meaning of geothermal energy? The heat produced within the crust and upper mantle of the earth, primarily by decay of radioactive elements.
- 540 What is the difference between nuclear fission and nuclear fusion? The reaction where heat is produced because of the fission (division) of a nucleus is called nuclear fission. The reaction in which heat is produced because of the fusion of two nuclei is called nuclear fusion. In hydrogen bomb the reaction was due to nuclear fusion. In the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, it was a fission bomb.
- 541 What is Robert Boyle known for? Boyle is known for his experiments on the physical properties of air and his law on the relationship between the pressure and the volume of the gas.
- 542 What is genetics? Genetics is the study of all those qualities of organisms that are governed by certain biologically active elements derived from the parents.
- 543 How many toes does an ostrich have on each of its legs? An ostrich has two toes in each leg.
- 544 Who is considered to be the father of modern astronomy? Copernicus.
- 545 From which material is aluminum made? Bauxite.
- 546 What are asteroids? Asteroid means "like star". Asteroids are heavenly bodies like the earth, but very much smaller in size. Some may be only a kilometre or two in diameter. They also orbit around the sun.
- 547 What is meant by convection of heat? A process in which heat is transferred by movement of heated fluid such as air and water is called convection.
- 548 What is meant by cloud seeding? Spraying of certain chemicals into clouds to induce rain.
- 549 Who was the first man to point out that things get spoiled because of germs? Louis Pasteur.
- 550 Why does cutting onions give a burning sensation in the eyes? When onions are cut, volatile oils, containing sulphur, are released. In combination with the water in the eye, they produce irritation.
- 551 What is the enzyme in human saliva? Mainly Amylase, which converts starches and glycogen into the sugar maltose. Apart from saliva amylases are found in pancreatic juices and intestinal juices too.

- 552 What is meant by ignition point? Ignition occurs when the temperature of a substance is raised to the point at which its molecules will react spontaneously with oxygen, and the substance begins to burn. This is called the ignition point.
- 553 Which is the largest and heaviest snake in the world? The anaconda. It weighs up to 200 kg.
- 554 To which family of plants do bamboos belong? The grass family.
- 555 Who propounded the theory of relativity? Albert Einstein.
- 556 How does the chameleon catch its prey? It flicks out its long sticky tongue and catches unwary insects flying by.
- 557 What is concrete? How is it made? Concrete is a rock-like substance made from cement, natural sand, stone and water. Cement and water react chemically and serve like glue to bond the stones and form a hardened mass. When the material is still in a "plastic state" it can be very easily formed into various shapes. But once the concrete sets (hardens) no changes can be made.
- 558 In which part of their body do spiders spin the thread? Abdomen.
- 559 What is meant by fermentation? Breakdown of organic substances into simpler substances due to the action of bacteria is called fermentation. Grapes are fermented to produce wine. Thus fermentation of wheat and rice results in the breakdown of the starches to simpler sugars and alcohols.
- 560 In which part of the plant are ovules contained? Pistil.
- 561 How long do butterflies live? 2 to 3 weeks.
- 562 What is the study of prehistoric animal and plant life through the analysis of fossils called? Palaeontology.
- 563 What does mammal mean? A mammal is a warm-blooded animal, which suckles its young ones with milk and has hair on its skin.
- 564 Which are the main gases in the atmosphere of the earth? Nitrogen and oxygen.
- 565 Who invented the stethoscope? Laennec.
- 566 What is a huge mass of ice slowly moving ahead called? Glacier.
- 567 What is an ammeter used for? Measuring the strength of an electric current.
- 568 How do bats communicate with each other? Bats produce screeching sounds. As these sounds strike objects around them, they produce echoes, which are heard by the bats. This helps the bats in navigation. Human beings cannot hear the sounds produced by the bats as they have much higher frequency than the audible range of the human ear.
- 569 What are the three main constituents of a galvanic cell? a. An anode b. A Cathode  
c. An electrolyte in which the anode and cathode are placed.
- 570 Who invented the telephone? Alexander Graham Bell. He was, however, interested in constructing an electrical device that would help deaf-mutes learn to speak.
- 571 What is the fluid part of the blood called? Plasma. It is about 90% water.

- 572 What is malaria? Malaria is an acute disease caused by an animal parasite called plasmodium. The disease is spread by the bite of the female Anopheles mosquito.
- 573 What is the origin of the word 'Malaria' ? Romans were familiar with this disease. They thought it is caused by bad (mal) air (aria).
- 574 How many eggs does a starfish lay at a time? Millions.
- 575 What does the acronym RADAR mean? Radio Detection and Ranging.
- 576 What is meant by Diabetes? Diabetes is caused because of inadequate secretion of insulin by the pancreas or the inability of the body to utilise the insulin produced.
- 577 How does the sun generate its energy? Inside the sun a reaction similar to that of a hydrogen bomb goes on continuously. Two atoms of hydrogen fuse to produce an atom of helium. The sun is today at the midway of its life.
- 578 What is the meaning of the word 'Protozoa' ? Protozoa means the first animal. They are the simplest form of life. They are made of a single cell.
- 579 What is the difference between dyes and pigments? Dyes are complex organic substances that are chemically bound to the fibres. Pigments consist of larger particles that form a film on the surface.
- 580 Who proposed the Centigrade Scale? Anders Celsius first proposed the centigrade thermometer, which has a scale of 100 degrees separating the boiling and freezing points of water.
- 581 Why do flocks of swans fly in a V-formation? By flying in this way they meet minimum resistance from the air to their flying.
- 582 Which is the fastest moving land snake? The Black Mamba, which has a speed of about 11 km per hour.
- 583 What is meant by the term habitat? Habitat is the place where a certain animal or plant would live and grow naturally. Thus an ocean is the habitat of whales and a pond is the habitat of frogs.
- 584 How can astronauts walk in space without any support to walk on? Because there is hardly any gravity far away from the earth. (Or any heavenly body).
- 585 Who is usually considered to be the discoverer of oxygen? Joseph Priestley.
- 586 What is a Tapir? Where is it found? A Tapir is an animal that looks like a pig. It is found in Malaysia and Central and South America.
- 587 Why are tea plants cut when they grow to a height of two metres or more? To force more tender leaves to branch out and make handpicking of leaves easier.
- 588 What is forging? The shaping of metals by hammering them is called forging.
- 589 What was Chandrasekhar Subrahmanyan known for? Indian-born American theoretical astrophysicist and Nobel laureate, Chandrasekhar Subrahmanyan contributed greatly to our understanding of the evolution of stars. Chandrasekhar was best known for his theoretical prediction, made at the age of 20, that large stars would collapse at the end of their lives into some unknown state even more dense than that of a white dwarf.
- 590 What is the condition caused by lack of Vitamin C? Scurvy.
- 591 Who was the first man to make a phonograph (gramophone)? Thomas Alva Edison.

- 592 What is a black hole? A body whose mass is so intensely concentrated that even light cannot escape its gravitational attraction. Normal properties of space in its vicinity are altered drastically.
- 593 How did Charles Goodyear discover the vulcanisation of rubber? Accidentally he spilled a mixture of rubber and sulphur on a hot stove. He observed that the rubber had become stronger and elastic. From there he got the idea of hardening rubber.
- 594 How did Roentgen discover X-rays? While experimenting with a glass tube from which the air had been pumped, Roentgen happened to pass an electric current through the tube. Nearby was a screen coated with Barium Platinocyanide. Suddenly he noticed that the screen was glowing with a greenish blue light. After experimenting with this radiation, coming from the evacuated glass tube Roentgen found that this radiation could pass through substances of varying densities placed between the tube and the screen. He named these rays X-rays.
- 595 What are chromosomes? Chromosomes are tiny thread-like parts of a cell. These can be seen under a microscope. They are made up of smaller parts called genes. These chromosomes and genes decide heredity.
- 596 Who was the first person to show that the Milky Way is composed of stars? Galileo Galilei.
- 597 What is the average life of a red blood corpuscle? 120 days.
- 598 What is the scientific study of insects called? Entomology.
- 599 What are the properties of aluminium, which make it very useful, particularly in the aerospace industry? Aluminium is very light and yet very strong. It does not get corroded. Aluminium's excellent electrical conductivity makes it very useful in making high voltage electrical conductors.
- 600 Who invented the Battery? Alessandro Volta.
- 601 Name the first aircraft to land on the moon. Luna 2. It was launched on September 12, 1959 by the USSR.
- 602 Name two countries, which use geothermal heat (heat from far below the earth's surface) to produce electricity? Italy, Iceland, Japan, New Zealand, USA and Russia.
- 603 What is cerebrum? The cerebrum is the main part of the brain and controls the ability to think. The cerebrum receives impulses and directs the body into activity.
- 604 What are citrus fruits? Citrus fruits are those, which contain citric acid in sizeable amounts. Citric acid gives the citrus fruits their sour taste. Lemons, oranges and limes all contain citric acid.
- 605 What is the difference between an Arabian camel and a Bactrian camel? The Arabian camel (or dromedary) has only one hump, while the Bactrian camel has two humps.
- 606 What is carbolic acid? The scientific name for carbolic acid is Phenol. It is extremely poisonous. It is used in the preparation of some plastics. Picric Acid, obtained from phenol, is an ingredient in many explosives.
- 607 What is meant by a Marsupial? Animals carrying their young ones in a pouch.
- 608 What is the only food of the giant pandas in the wild? Bamboo shoots and leaves.
- 609 What is the name for the unit of electric power? Watt.
- 610 What causes tides in the ocean and sea? Gravitational pull of the moon and to some extent the sun.

- 611 Why does a fire look yellowish, at times? When the combustion (burning) is not complete the colour of fire becomes yellowish. When the combustion is complete, the colour changes to pale blue.
- 612 Which material is used to make cellophane? Cellulose, the chemical substance that lines the walls of plant cells. Cellophane is used in packaging.
- 613 What is a cataract? Cataract is a disease affecting the lens of the eye. The lens consists of a semi-solid substance, enclosed in a capsule. Cataract is a condition in which the lens loses its transparency and tends to become opaque.
- 614 What is the difference between mass and weight? Weight and mass are two different things. The amount of matter that a body contains is mass whereas the weight of an object will be a little less near the equator (where it is further away from the centre of the earth) and a little more at the poles. An object in free space has no weight, but it will have a definite mass.
- 615 What is meant by a catalyst? A catalyst is a substance, which alters the rate of speed of a chemical reaction, without itself being permanently changed. Normally a catalyst hastens or encourages the rate of reaction. However, at times, catalysts are used to slow down a reaction.
- 616 Who discovered Penicillin? Alexander Fleming
- 617 What is measured in the Richter scale? Earthquakes.
- 618 When was the metric system introduced? During the French revolution, France introduced the metric system. The standard of length was related to the dimensions of the earth rather than the dimensions of a human limb.
- 619 Where would you find a dodo? Nowhere. It was last reported in Mauritius in 1681. Now it is extinct.
- 620 When did Marie Curie win the Nobel Prize? In 1903 for physics and in 1911 for chemistry.
- 621 Of all the bones in the skull and the face, which is the only movable bone in human beings? The lower jaw.
- 622 How big is the Milky Way? It is estimated that the Milky Way has over a hundred billion stars. The sun is one of the stars in the Milky Way.
- 623 Where does the impure blood enter the human heart? It enters the cavity of the right auricle through two veins - one called the superior vena cava enters from the head region and the other called the inferior vena cava enters from the lower or posterior region of the body.
- 624 What is the difference between Direct Current and Alternating Current? The current flowing in a circuit is described as direct current if it flows continuously in a single direction, and as alternating current if it flows alternately in each direction.
- 625 What is distillation? Distillation is the process of converting a liquid into vapour form (by heating) and then cooling this vapour to recover the evaporated constituents by the process of condensation.
- 626 How does a thermos flask retain the heat of its contents? It has a tightly fitting cap of cork or such material, which is a poor conductor of heat. The bottle has a double layer of glass. Glass too is a poor conductor. There is vacuum between the layers of glass to prevent loss of heat by convection and conduction. If the surfaces are made highly reflective, even radiation can be reduced.
- 627 Who made the first balloon that could fly? Joseph & Jacques Montgolfier.

628 How are mosquito fish helpful to man? They eat mosquitoes.

629 What is meant by the Hippocratic oath? Hippocrates was a Greek physician whose oath is still taken by medical students, when they graduate. The oath reads, in part, "I swear so far as power and discernment shall be mine, I'll carry out regimen for the benefit of the sick and will keep them from harm and wrong. To none will I give a deadly drug even if solicited. Into whatsoever house I shall enter I'll go for the benefit of their sick" There is also a clause that secrecy will be maintained about the ailment of the patients.

630 Name the animal, which has the largest eyes in the world. The Atlantic Giant Squid. The diameter of its eye is about 30 cm.

631 What is horticulture? Horticulture is the science and art of growing fruits, vegetables, flowers or ornamental plants.

632 What is a hygrometer? A hygrometer is one of the instruments used to measure the moisture in the air.

633 What is an Ibex? Where are they found? The Ibex is a mountain goat. It was close to extinction in the Alps. It is now under Government protection. In India Ibex is found at high altitudes in Kashmir.

634 What is inertia? Inertia is the property of matter, which keeps a body at rest unless a force is exerted on it. Inertia also keeps a moving body in motion at the same speed and in the same direction unless a force is applied to stop this forward motion.

635 Who discovered the laws of planetary motion? Johannes Kepler - Sir Isaac Newton later used these laws as the basis of his law of Universal Gravitation.

636 What is hybridisation? Hybridisation is the mating or crossing of two parents of different species or varieties. Thus a mule is a hybrid of a horse and an ass. In the case of flowers, hybridisation is done by taking pollen from one plant and dusting it on the pistils of another plant. A bag is placed over the pistils until the seeds are developed. Then the seeds are planted and a hybrid is formed.

637 Who discovered the germ, which causes tuberculosis? Robert Koch, a famous German physician.

638 What is an antidote? A remedy for poisoning is called antidote. The remedy may consist of

(a) Neutralising the poison

(c) Preventing the body from absorbing it or

(d) Assisting the body in eliminating.

639 What is a desert? A desert is a large area of land that is too dry to support life. Deserts are not always hot, dry or sandy. The tundras of Siberia (in Russia) are deserts. Water is frozen here and does not support life.

640 Who invented the dynamo?

Michael Faraday.

641 Why is the Egyptian plover bird popularly called the "crocodile bird"? The Egyptian plover bird has been nicknamed the crocodile bird following an account by Herodotus that he saw these birds enter the open jaws of crocodiles and pick pieces of food from their gums.

642 Which were the first passengers to fly in a balloon?



A sheep, a cock & a duck.

643 Which was the first living being to enter space? A dog named Laika.

644 What is a light year? In measuring distances on earth we use units like miles and kilometres. But even for giving the distance between the sun and the earth, we have to write 93,000,000 million miles or 150,000,000 kilometres. To write the distance between Alpha Centauri and earth we have to write long numbers. Hence measuring in units based on the speed of light has been adopted. In this scale the sun is 8 minutes from the earth. In kilometres one light year is approximately  $924 \times 10^{13}$  or 9,240,000,000,000,000 kilometres. Alpha Centauri is just 4.6 light years away.

645 Which element is important in the formation of blood? Iron.

646 Name the animal that can lift 50 times its weight. Ant.

647 Which fish carries its eggs in its mouth? Catfish or Cichlid fish.

648 How do fireflies produce light? There are proteins in the body of fireflies that produce light, when they get oxidized in the presence of the enzyme, Luciferase.

649 Where in the world are woolly Mammoths found? They are extinct and are not found anywhere. But about a million years ago, they roamed over land. They were the ancestors of modern elephants.

650 In which organ of the human body are the lymphocyte cells (blood cells) manufactured? Spleen

651 What are the constituents of stainless steel? Stainless steel is an alloy of iron, nickel and chromium. Stainless steel making involves the removal of impurities and addition of desirable metals like chromium and nickel.

652 What is meant by the term Water cycle? Water Cycle is the story of a raindrop, which passes through other phases to become a raindrop again. In summer the water in lakes and rivers evaporates. This water vapour is warm and is pushed up by cold air. As the warm air moves upwards air currents develop. They are called winds. When the warm air passes over mountains or when it goes high up, it cools down and condenses to water again and falls down to earth. On the surface of the earth the raindrops may join other raindrops and if the earth cannot absorb this water quickly, they form streams and rivers. And the cycle continues.

653 What is Plaster of Paris? When gypsum is heated to  $120^{\circ}\text{C}$  it loses water and becomes a white powder. That is plaster of Paris. When water is added to the powder, it hardens. It is used for plasters, moulds and models.

654 Who discovered Plutonium? Glenn Seaborg.

655 Who was the person to first identify the proton? Ernest Rutherford.

656 What is a planarium? A planarium is a simple form of life, which crawls about and feeds on small animals.

657 Why does milk spill out when boiled? When milk is heated, the water in it starts evaporating. The fat globules present in the milk get separated and float on the top as cream. On further heating, more water vapour is formed. But when it tries to escape, it gets trapped by the thick layer of cream on the top. The water vapour pushes up the layer of cream and forms a bulge, which finally bursts out, causing the spill.

658 What is the difference between a porpoise and a dolphin? Porpoises are smaller than dolphins and they do not have beak like snouts of dolphins. Porpoises live in the shallow water of ocean bays and the mouths of rivers, while dolphins live out in the deeper waters.

659 Where is the pituitary gland situated in the body? In the brain on its underside.

- 660 What is ozone? Ozone is an isotope of oxygen with three atoms of oxygen in its molecule.
- 661 What is the difference between a planetarium and a telescope? Through a telescope we can see a real but small part of the sky. On the dome of the planetarium what we see is a picture of the sky, containing the sun, the moon, the stars and planets in an artificial sky.
- 662 What is meant by the term 'Orbit'? Orbit is the path of any body revolving around another body. This path can be circular or elliptical (as an ellipse).
- 663 Where do frogs lay their eggs? All frogs go back to water to lay their eggs.
- 664 Who was Pythagoras? He was a Greek Philosopher and mathematician who lived around 520 BC.
- 665 Who propounded the theory that the sun and not the earth is the centre of the Solar System? Nicolus Copernicus (Bhaskaracharya of 11th Century A.D and Aryabhata of the fifth century A.D seem to be aware of this).
- 666 Who invented the lightning rod to help prevent lightning from damaging buildings and physical property? Benjamin Franklin of USA.
- 667 What is an anableps? Any of the three species of Fish, commonly referred to as four eyed fish. An anableps has the ability to see above and below the water at the same time.
- 668 Why is it dangerous to walk on quicksand? Quicksand is a bed of very fine, powdery wet sand. It is a thick fluid. Once a foot is placed on quicksand, it is not easy to pull it away. The foot may slowly sink in the quicksand. Struggling to take out the foot may sink the foot further down. It is advisable to wait for help. If a man remains calm and does not move his foot, he may stop sinking.
- 669 What is an antiseptic? It is a chemical used to kill germs on the skin or in the wounds. It is also used on things people handle.
- 670 What is a satellite? A body that revolves around another is called a satellite. The earth and the other planets are satellites of the sun. The moon is a satellite of the earth.
- 671 What is Greenwich Meridian Time? Greenwich Meridian is an imaginary north-south line on the earth's surface drawn through Greenwich near London and both geographical North Pole and South Pole. This line has been arbitrarily chosen as the 0° longitude.
- 672 Who for the first time in recorded history used a prism to split white light into many colours? Sir Isaac Newton.
- 673 What is a fuse? The fuse is a strip of metal (or metallic wires) that melts at a relatively low temperature. When an electric circuit carries more electric current than it is supposed to carry, the fuse melts and prevents fires.
- 674 What is meant by the term 'freezing point'? The temperature at which a liquid changes to the solid state is called freezing point.
- 675 Who made the first printing press with moveable types? Johannes Gutenberg of Germany in the middle of the 15th century.
- 676 What is meant by wireless telegraphy? Wireless Telegraphy originally consisted of a sending key, which opened and closed the circuit and a sounder connected by wires to the key. Whenever the circuit was complete a click sound would be heard. Thus all the letters would be represented by the sounds being produced in the right sequence.

- 677 Which is the largest flesh-eating animal? Kodiak bear.
- 678 What is larva? A larva is a young animal that is not fully developed but is able to move about and feed itself. It changes into an adult animal that usually looks different. This change is called metamorphosis. Tadpoles, which grow into frogs, caterpillars, which grow into butterflies, and grubs, which grow to become beetles, are all examples of larva.
- 679 Is it true that the Himalayas grow taller year after year? Yes, about one mm a year. The solid layer of the earth consists of about a dozen semirigid plates. As the Indian plate moving north presses against the stationary Asian landmass, the height of the Himalayas increases. The increase is imperceptible.
- 680 Why doesn't a crocodile harm the plover birds that enter its mouth? Because the plover birds enter the mouth of the crocodile and eat tit-bits found there. This helps the crocodiles to improve their oral hygiene. Therefore crocodiles do not harm the plover birds.
- 681 From where does the moon get its light during the night? Earth
- 682 How many parts was a day divided into, in ancient India? Eight parts, called prahars. The Hindi word 'dupahar', for noon, is derived from 'du' (two) and pahar (prahar).
- 683 What was special about the telescope invented by Newton? The telescope devised by Galileo was a refracting telescope. The refracting telescope uses a large convex lens as the objective to focus light and form a real image. Another lens is used to magnify it. The reflecting telescope uses a large parabolic or concave mirror instead of the objective lens to focus light and form a real image. The images produced by these telescopes are inverted. An additional lens is used to right the image.
- 684 How are we protected from the ultraviolet rays of the sun? Ultraviolet rays come from the sun. If all the ultraviolet rays emanating from the sun travelling to the earth were to reach the earth, all life on earth would be destroyed. But this does not happen, because a layer of ozone (20 to 50 km) above the earth's atmosphere absorbs the ultraviolet rays of the sun.
- 685 What is the meaning of the word Tanning'? Converting raw animal skin into leather.
- 686 Who developed the modern concept of the element? Antoine Lavoisier.
- 687 How do bees communicate? Bees communicate the source of nectar to others by the pattern of the dance they perform.
- 688 Who invented the Thermos Flask? James Dewar.
- 689 What were the first words to be recorded on the gramophone made by Edison? "Mary had a little lamb."
- 690 Which is the hardest substance in the human body? The enamel that covers teeth.
- 691 What is a bone made up of? Two-thirds of the bone is calcium phosphate. The other one-third is gelatin.
- 692 What are sweat glands? Sweat glands are located under the skin of mammals. They are coils of soft, tiny tubes. The tube ends at openings in the skin called pores. Sweat glands carry moisture and waste material to the surface of the skin. When the water is brought to the surface of the skin it evaporates there and keeps the body cool.
- 693 Why can't a horse sit? They don't have knees on their hind legs.
- 694 What is the lead of a pencil made of? Graphite, whose main constituent is carbon

- 695 Who discovered radioactivity? A.M. Becquerel.
- 696 Who produced the first synthetic dye? William Perkin.
- 697 Where are the lobster's teeth located? In the stomach.
- 698 What is parachute? How does it work? Parachute is nothing but a big umbrella made of a special fabric. The parachute and the person using it are subject to two forces: - 1) gravity, which brings them down and 2) the buoyant force of air, which pushes up the umbrella. If the force of the gravity is greater than the buoyancy, the parachute moves down, but very slowly. Hence men can reach the ground safely.
- 699 What is inoculation? Introduction of germs into a body to precipitate a mild form of a disease. As a result antibodies are produced, which protect the body from the invading germs.
- 700 What is meant by Acrophobia? Fear of heights.
- 701 How many lobes does a human liver have? Four
- 702 What is fog? Fog is water vapour condensing near the surface of the earth. Fog differs from clouds in that fog is close to the earth and clouds are in the sky.
- 703 What is the unit used for measuring work or energy? Foot-pound. Thus if an object weighing one pound were lifted through a distance of a foot, one footpound of work would be done.
- 704 How many chambers are there in a human heart? Four. Right auricle, left auricle, right ventricle and left ventricle.
- 705 What is the blood condition involving an abnormal reduction in the number of red blood cells called? Anaemia
- 706 How are hereditary characters transmitted from one generation to the next? Genes are believed to be responsible for transmitting hereditary characters. Every human cell contains 23 pairs of chromosomes, which are made up of many paired particles or units called genes.
- 707 How are hydrocarbons produced? Hydrocarbons consist mainly of hydrogen and carbon. They are produced from the breakdown of plants and other living beings, either by bacteria or by heat and pressure under the surface of the earth. They are also called Natural Gas.
- 708 What is the human body made up of, according to Hippocrates? Blood, phlegm, yellow bile and black bile.
- 709 From which plants do we get potatoes? How? Potatoes grow on potato plants. The plant stems grow under the ground and are called tubers. These are the edible parts and are called potatoes. Spanish explorers brought the potato to Europe.
- 710 What are glacial ages? There have been several periods of time when much of the earth's surface became covered with ice. These different periods of time make up the glacial ages.
- 711 How many nephrons does a human kidney contain? About a million.
- 712 What is the common unit of measurement of electric power? Kilowatt Hour.
- 713 When we run very fast or work strenuously, we feel tired. What is this tiredness due to? Lactic Acid is formed when the glycogen or sugar in the muscles is used. This makes us feel tired.

- 714 How are gills important to fish? They are used for breathing air by most Fishes and certain other lungless animals.
- 715 What are radioactive elements? These are elements in which protons and neutrons are not in balance. They slowly breakdown to form stable elements.
- 716 What are lichens? Lichens are plants that have no flowers, roots, leaves or stems. They grow on rocks and along beaches. They live on the bark of tree on the highest mountains.
- 717 Whose notebooks were Filled with ideas and sketches of inventions, including designs for an airplane? Leonardo da Vinci.
- 718 What is a ligament? Ligament is a term for individual tough fibrous bands of connective tissue that support the internal organs and hold bones together at the joints.
- 719 What is a larynx? The larynx is the voice box, located in the throat.
- 720 Who is considered as the father of modern rocketry? Robert Mulchings and Goddard Hutchings.
- 721 What is Brownian movement? That small particles of matter (molecules) are in constant motion was observed by Robert Brown through his microscope, by putting very fine powder in water. This movement of molecules is referred to as Brownian movement.
- 722 What is camouflage in nature? In nature many animals resort to a number of ways to protect themselves from enemies or predators. This is called camouflage. The Polar Bear, having a white colour is an example of camouflage. Similarly zebra's colour confuses its enemy and serves as a camouflage.
- 723 What is the chief source of uranium and radium? The mineral, Pitchblende.
- 724 Why do planes flying at great speeds leave white fumes behind? The planes leaving fume behind are jet planes. In a basic jet engine air is compressed and forced into a chamber, where fuel is added. Here combustion (burning) takes place. The hot gases that are produced escape from the base of the engine. This pushes the aircraft forward. The white fumes that you see are the hot gases as they escape out. Since the temperature around the jet is low, the fume condenses and becomes visible.
- 725 Why do some people have fat legs? The cause of filaria (elephant leg) are worms called Wuchereia bancrofti the female worm gives birth to young worms and not eggs. These young ones, called microfilaria, find the way into blood stream of their victims and from there into the lymphatic vessels. The immediate cause of filarial is a mosquito called culex.
- 726 What is a dehumidifier? Why is dehumidification important? Heating, cooling, ventilation and dehumidifying are aspects of air-conditioning. It is believed that a cold climate with a low level of humidity is good for health. Even food is preserved better when the temperature and humidity are low.
- 727 What is meant by Quarantine? Quarantine is the isolation of persons, animals or plants, which have been exposed to communicable diseases.
- 728 What is the Pythagoras theorem? The theorem states that the square of the hypotenuse of a right-angled triangle is equal to the sum of the squares of the other two sides.
- 729 What are pseudopodia? Pseudopodia are temporary extension of the body of a one-celled animal such as amoeba.
- 730 How is plywood made? Plywood is made by gluing wide thin slices of wood together in order to make a strong board.

- 731 How many pairs of legs do crabs have? Five pairs.
- 732 What is a rain gauge? It is a device used for measuring rainfall.
- 733 How do planaria (flatworm) reproduce? Planaria (plural of planarium) constrict and fragment just behind the pharynx. Both pieces then develop into complete animals.
- 734 What is a fungus? A fungus is a plant without chlorophyll or true leaves, stem and root. Since they are unable to make their own food, they must live on other living or dead plants and animals. Fungi (plural of fungus) are found almost everywhere. Mushrooms are fungi.
- 735 What is resonance? When an object is set into vibration with a certain pitch (frequency) any other object nearby that can vibrate at the same pitch, will start vibrating. This is referred to as resonance.
- 736 Where are the vocal cords located in man? The vocal chords are located in the larynx. The larynx is a hollow muscular organ forming an air passage to the lungs.
- 737 What are alveoli? The tiny air sacs in the lungs are called alveoli. It is through the walls of the alveoli that the exchange of gases takes place.
- 738 What is meant by embalming a body? When a body is treated in such a way that it is preserved from decay, it is called embalming.
- 739 What is embryology? Many animals begin life as a fertilised egg. These grow over a period into the form of an adult animal. The study of the changes that take place as an egg develops into an animal is the science of embryology.
- 740 What is an element? An element is a substance that cannot be broken down or decomposed into smaller parts by ordinary chemical means.
- 741 What do elements consist of? Positively charged protons, negatively charged electrons and neutrons, which have no charge.
- 742 What is electrolysis? Electrolysis is the decomposition of a substance using electricity. For example when table salt is subjected to electrolysis, it turns into sodium and chlorine.
- 743 Who propounded the theory of relativity? Albert Einstein
- 744 What is ecology? Ecology is the study of plants and animals in relationship to their environment. Everything that affects plants and animals and how they are dependent upon their surroundings is the subject matter of the study of ecology.
- 745 Why is an earthworm also called 'a Fanners best friend'? The earthworm is called the farmer's friend because it helps him to keep the soil rich and loose so that plants can grow. As they burrow into soft soil, they swallow some of it, which passes through their bodies and finally is left behind as castings. This is enriched material.
- 746 What is a mammoth? Mammoth was an ancestor of the elephant (of the modern elephant), which is now extinct. Whole frozen mammoths have been found below the ice in Siberia.
- 747 What is a manometer? It is an instrument for measuring the pressure of gases.
- 748 How many satellites does Mars have? Two.
- 749 What is medulla oblongata? It is the part of brain that connects with the spinal cord.

- 750 How many pairs of nerves are there in man that are connected to the brain? Twelve pairs. They are called the cranial nerves.
- 751 Why do earth and other planets revolve around the sun? Sun's gravitational force keeps the planets in a fixed orbit.
- 752 Name the unit in which electric current is measured? Ampere.
- 753 Which planet in the solar system moves faster around the sun than any other planet? Mercury.
- 754 What are antibiotics? How do antibiotics help in curing diseases caused by bacteria? In nature, there are moulds and bacteria that attack other organisms in order to obtain nourishment and to reproduce. Antibiotics are chemical substances produced by organisms (usually microorganisms) that are harmful to other bacteria and life forms. If you moisten a piece of stale bread and keep it in the open, there will be a greenish growth on it a little later. That is because of the spread of a mould called *Penicillium Notatum*. It produces penicillin. Penicillin is a highly effective antibiotic. Most bacteria double every half an hour. Just one bacterium (singular of bacteria) becomes thousands within a few hours. An antibiotic does not permit the multiplication of bacteria. In many cases, the antibiotic does not permit even the survival of bacteria.
- 755 Which is the star closest to our earth, after the sun? ProximaCentauri.
- 756 Who founded the school of mathematics at Alexandria in Egypt? The Greek mathematician Euclid around 300 B.C.
- 757 What are the remains of animals or plants, preserved deep under the earth or in rocks, etc called? Fossils.
- 758 The intensity of which insect's song gives us an indication of the temperature? The cricket.
- 759 What was the name of the first Atomic Reactor built by India? Where is it? Apsara, in Mumbai.
- 760 Which are the only planets to revolve clockwise around the sun? Venus and Uranus.
- 761 What is the study of water with reference to its occurrence in nature known as? Hydrology.
- 762 How can gargling with salt water help relieve a sore throat? An infection of the throat spreads rapidly. Quite a few varieties of bacteria double every half an hour. Gargling with warm water does not kill these bacteria, but it prevents their growth. Temperatures of more than 40 degrees Celsius are not conducive to the growth of bacteria. Any solution which has more than eight per cent salt inhibits the growth of bacteria. Thus, if you gargle with warm salt water, it will prevent the proliferation of bacteria.
- 763 Why does the sound of water keep changing when a vessel is being filled under a tap? Sound is produced by the movement of columns of air. Strike a stainless steel glass with a spoon. A sound is produced. Stop the vibration of the steel glass with your fingers. There will be no sound. When water is being filled in a vessel, sound is produced because of the movement of the column of air. This column becomes smaller and smaller as the water level rises in the vessel. Hence the sound changes.
- 764 What is the form in which iron is found in nature? Iron Oxide.
- 765 Who invented the Dynamo? Michael Faraday.
- 766 How does a cricket produce the chirping sound? By rubbing its legs against one of its front wings.
- 767 What is magma made of? Molten rocks.



- 768 Who first introduced the concept of molecules? Amedeo Avogadro in the year 1811.
- 769 From the bark of which tree is quinine extracted? Cinchona.
- 770 Where do frogs usually live in the hot season? Buried at the bottom of ponds.
- 771 Who discovered Calcium? Sir Humphry Davy.
- 772 Which is the most abundant metal in the earth's crust? Aluminium.
- 773 What is matter made of? Matter is made of electrically charged protons, found in the nucleus and electrons travelling about the nucleus. In addition, there are neutrons in the nucleus with a weight similar to protons but lacking any charge.
- 774 Who first introduced vaccination in medical practice? Edward Jenner.
- 775 Name the only two poisonous lizards in the world The Gila Monster and the Beaded Lizard.
- 776 What is the scientific study of the earth's crust known as? Geology.
- 777 Name the mammals that lay eggs. Platypus and Echidna.
- 778 Why did Galileo come into conflict with the church? Because he supported the Copernican theory that the planets (including the earth) revolve around the sun.
- 779 What does U.F.O stand for? Unidentified Flying Object.
- 780 Which is the brightest star in the sky at night? Sinus.
- 781 What method of healing is also known as shiatsu? Acupressure.
- 782 What is Hypothermia? It is a body condition in which the temperature falls suddenly as a result of exposure to extreme cold.
- 783 What is the thin flap of cartilage attached to the base of the tongue of terrestrial vertebrates called? Epiglottis.
- 784 What is the term used to describe the remains of forests where the trees have been submerged or buried and the tree tissues have been replaced gradually by minerals such as silica or calcite? Petrified Forest.

## Special Features of the Countries

No.	Country	Special Features
1.	Bangladesh	Produces 89 p.c. of the world's raw jute.
2.	Belgium	is the most densely populated country in Europe. Antwerp is the world's biggest diamond-trading centre.
3.	Brazil	is the largest State in south America both in area and population. It leads the world in the production of Coffee and Castor beans.
4.	Chile	In Chile the only natural nitrate in the world is found. About 47 p.c. of the world's iodine is obtained as a by-product in nitrate processing.
5.	Columbia	produces 95 p.c. of the world's gem emeralds.
6.	Cuba	Is the second largest cane-sugar producer in the world. India being first in cane-sugar production.
7.	Denmark	The oldest Kingdom of Europe, is a constitutional monarchy.
8.	Ecuador	Ecuador is the world's chief source of supply of balsa, a light wood. It exports more bananas than other country.
9.	Ghana	Ghana is the world's leading cocoa producer. About 40 p.c. of world output is produced by Ghana.
10.	Indonesia	Is the main producer of petroleum in the far east.
11.	Italy	Is the world's largest producer of mercury.
12.	Jamaica	Is the world's largest producer of bauxite.
13.	Japan	Is the most highly industrialized country in the Far East. It is the biggest Ship-building nation and the fourth largest auto market in the world.
14.	Kenya	Is the largest producer of tea in Africa.
15.	North Korea	Is a leading country in the output of tungsten, graphite and magnesite.
16.	Kuwait	Is the world's second largest exporter and fourth largest producer of crude oil.
17.	Malaysia	Is the world's largest producer of rubber and tin.
18.	Mexico	Is the world leader in the production of silver, sisal, hemp and circle for chewing gum.
19.	Monaco	Is the smallest state in the world with the largest density of population per square mile.
20.	Nepal	Is the only Hindu independent State in the world. Mount Everest, the highest mountain peak in the world (29028 ft) is situated in Nepal. Nepal has produced the toughest fighting men in the world. It is the world's best rice-producer.
21.	Nicaragua	Is the largest of the Central American States.
22.	Norway	Is the land of the Midnight Sun where the sun does not set from the middle of May until the end of July. The sun does not rise above the horizon from November 18 to January 23. Varicoloured Northern Lights, or

Aurora Borealis, are visible in winter. Norway is a great sea-faring nation and its merchant marine is now the third largest in the world.

23. Peru Ranks fifth in the world in silver mining and produces 25 p.c. of the world's vanadium. It is the world's top fishing country.
24. Portugal Leads in the world in the production of Cork.
25. South Africa Leads the world in production of gold, diamonds, platinum and antimony and is one of the richest in uranium, vanadium, chrome, manganese and asbestos.
26. Sri Lanka Is the largest tea exporting country in the world.
27. Sudan Is the world's principal source of gum arabic.
28. Turkey Is the largest producer of chrome in the world.
29. Uganda Is the largest coffee producer in the British Commonwealth.
30. USSR Is the largest country in the world. It is the richest country in the world in mineral resources having deposits of almost every known mineral. It ranks among the top producers of oil, chromite, iron ore, petroleum, gold, copper, manganese, aluminium, platinum, asbestos, salt, etc.
31. Zaire Is the world's largest producer of industrial diamond and cobalt. Other minerals are gold, silver, tin, zinc, iron, copper, tungsten, manganese, uranium, radium, etc.

### Abbreviated Name

No.	Abbreviated Name	Original Name
01	Father of the Nation (India)	Mahatma Gandhi
02	Frontier Gandhi	Abdul Ghaffar Khan
03	Fuehrer	Adolf Hitler
04	Grand Old Man of Britain	Gladstone
05	Grand Old Man of India	Dadabhai Naoroji
06	Gurudev	Rabindra Nath Tagore
07	Lady with the Lamp	Florence Nightingale
08	Lal,Bal,Pal	Lala Lajpat Rai,Bal Gangadhar Tilak & Bipin Chandra Pal
09	Lion of Punjab (Sher-i-Punjab)	Lala Lajpat Rai
10	Little Corporal	Napoleon
11	Lokmanya	Bal Gangadhar Tilak
12	Lok Nayak	Jayaprakash Narayan
13	Mahamanya	Pt.Madan Mohan Malaviya
14	Man of Blood and Iron	Bismarck
15	Man of Destiny	Napoleon
16	Man of Iron	Sardar Patel
17	Man of the Masses	Kamaraj
18	Man of Peace	Lal Bahadur Shastri
19	Mahatma	M.K. Gandhi
20	Maid of Orleans	Joan of Arc
21	Mark Twain	Samuel Clemens
22	Netaji	Subhash Chandra Bose
23	Nightingale of India	Sarojini Naidu
24	Punjab Kesari	Lala Lajpat Rai
25	Strong Man of India	Sardar Patel

## Electronics and Computers

No.	Question	Answer
01	The unit of frequency is	Hertz
02	The unit of resistance is	Ohm
03	The device which makes or breaks a circuit is	Switch
04	The path of an electric current is known as a	Circuit
05	Device which opposes the flow of electric current is known as	Resistor
06	Arc Lamp was invented by	C.F.Brush
07	Television was invented by	J.L.Baird
08	Transistor was invented by	J.Bardeen,W.Shockley and W.Brattain
09	The unit of wavelength of light is	Angstrom
10	A device which converts light into electricity is known as	Photo cell
11	Hertz was the first to discover	Radio waves
12	Marconi invented	Radio
13	In 1901, Marconi beamed a signal from Cornwall in England to	Newfoundland
14	Thomas Edison was an	American inventor
15	A glass tube with two electrodes is called a	Diode
16	Lee de Forest was an	American scientist
17	Lee de Forest discovered the	Triode
18	Radio and television transmit signals using	Electromagnetic waves
19	To turn pictures into electrical signals,television Cameras rely on	Photo-electric effect
20	Transistor was invented in the year	1948
21	The first electronic components invented were the	Thermionic valves
22	Microchip was invented in the year	1958
23	Microchip was invented by	Jack Kilby
24	The microchip invented first was also the first	Integrated circuit
25	Silicon and germanium are ideal examples of	Semi conductors
26	LED stands for	Light Emitting Diode

27 The first computer was invented in the year 1834

28 The first computer was invented by Charles Babbage

29 The first computer invented was called Analytical Engine

30 In the present day electronic machines,computers function as Artificial brains

31 CAD means Computer Aided Design

32 CPU stands for Central Processing Unit

33 RAM stands for Random Access Memory

34 J.J. Thomson was a British physicist

35 In 1897,J.J.Thomson discovered Electrons

36 A device used for increasing the strength of electric signal is called Amplifier

37 The height of a wave is called Amplitude

38 An electron carries a charge Negative

39 In a transistor,a base is the Filling in the semiconductor sandwich

40 The tube behind the screen in TVs and most computers is called Cathode Ray Tube

41 The force which makes an electric current is called Electromotive Force

42 Device used for measuring small amounts of electric current is called Galvanometer

43 Sound too low to be heard by humans is called Infrasound

44 VDU stands for Visual Display Unit

45 One kilobyte is approximately 1000 bytes

46 DOS stands for Disk Operating System

47 WORD STAR is a popular Word processing programme

48 WORD STAR was developed by Micro pro Company

49 PC stands for Personal Computer

50 ALU stands for Arithmetic Logic Unit

51 The VDU and Keyboard together form a TERMINAL

52 The speed of the dot matrix printers is measured by CPS which stands for characters per second

53 The speed of the line printers is measured by LPM which stands for Lines per second

54 DBMS stands for Database Management System

55 IBM is a famous computer company.IBM stands for International Business Machines Corporation

- 56 ROM stands for Read Only Memory
- 57 The actual machine of the computer is commonly known as Hardware
- 58 The programs run on the computer are commonly known as Software
- 59 All the output which is printed on paper is called Hard Copy
- 60 The number of pixels on a computer screen determines a screen's Resolution
- 61 A processor's speed is measured in Megahertz
- 62 A software that assists the computer in performing instructions, is called as system software
- 63 CAM stands for Computer Aided Manufacturing
- 64 DPI stands for Dots per Inch
- 65 DTP stands for Desk Top Publishing
- 66 EPROM stands for erasable and Programmable Read only Memory
- 67 A magnetic storage disk made out of a thin piece of plastic is called Floppy Disk
- 68 A pictorial representation of the step by step sequence for solving a problem is known as a Flow Chart
- 69 A measure of storage capacity equal to one thousand megabytes is one Gigabyte
- 70 A variable whose value is accessible throughout the program is called Global Variable
- 71 A huge, worldwide network of computers that communicate with each other, allowing global communications between users is known popularly as Internet
- 72 KB stands for Kilobyte
- 73 LAN stands for Local Area Network
- 74 A printer which uses light to transfer the image to paper is the Laser Printer
- 75 Memory which retains all its contents even after the power is turned off is known as Non-Volatile Memory
- 76 The result that is generated by the computer after processing the information provided to it is known as Output
- 77 Electronic mail is more popularly known as E-Mail
- 78 PILOT stands for Programmed Inquiry Learning Or Teaching
- 79 PILOT was developed by Doug Engelhardt
- 80 IQL stands for Interactive Query Language
- 81 LOGO was developed by Dr. Seymour Papert
- 82 CAL stands for Computer Assisted Learning
- 83 APT stands for Automatically Programmed Tooling



84 `C'language was invented by Dennis M.Ritchie

85 Modula-2 was developed by Niklaus Wirth

86 Terminals that have their own memory are called Smart terminals

87 The memory that needs electric power to sustain its contents is known as Volatile Memory

88 MOS stands for Metallic Oxide Semiconductors

89 Dvorak key board was designed by August Dvorak

90 A simple device which functions as a simpler alternative to the keyboard is the Mouse

91 Automatic drawing input device is called Scanner

92 In the second generation computers,magnetic cores were used as Main Memory Devices

93 LCD stands for Liquid Crystal Display

94 RADAR stands for Radio Detection and Ranging

95 RADAR works on the principle of Echo

96 software-in-Hardware modules are called Firmware

97 A device by which any microcomputer can use ordinary television set for producing output is called RF modulator

98 EDSAC stands for Electronic Delayed Storage Automatic Computer

99 EDVAC stands for Electronic Discrete Variable Automatic Computer

100 EDSAC was developed in the year 1949

101 EDVAC was developed in the year 1952

102 ENIAC stands for Electronic Numerical Integrator and Calculator

103 The most successful computing device in the ancient time was Abacus

104 Use of some mechanism for the operation of a machine is known as Automation

105 Radar contact with the moon was first made in 1945

106 Radar contact with Venus was first made in 1961

107 A system in which information is displayed on a television screen is known as Video Text System

108 A modern means of communication in which the information is stored in a computer at a TV station is known as Teletext

109 Global communication became possible by using Satellites

110 Morse code was invented by Samuel Morse

- 111 The code used in a teleprinter is the Baudot Code
- 112 Teleprinter exchange is popularly known as Telex
- 113 A device which converts sound waves into electrical waves is called Microphone
- 114 AVC stands for Automatic Volume Control
- 115 The device used to measure wavelengths of radio waves is Wavemeter
- 116 A hollow metallic tube used in place of wire in electric circuits carrying high frequency currents is called Waveguide
- 117 An instrument used to measure the intensity of radiations is the Radiometer
- 118 An instrument used to measure electrical voltage is the Voltmeter
- 119 VTVM stands for Vacuum Tube Volt Meter
- 120 A circuit which maintains a constant voltage is called Voltage Stabilizer
- 121 SCR stands for Silicon Controlled Rectifier
- 122 A device used to increase or decrease electric voltage is called a Transformer
- 123 A magnetic tape that records both audio and video signals is called a Video Tape
- 124 The first electronic calculator was manufactured in 1963 by Bell Punch Company, USA
- 125 MASER stands for Microwave Amplification by stimulated Emission of Radiation
- 126 A computer which can handle a large volume of numbers is called a Number cruncher
- 127 POST stands for Power on Self Test
- 128 POST is a test carried out just after the computer has been Switched on
- 129 An index of the files stored on a disk is called Directory
- 130 CP/M stands for Control program for Microcomputers
- 131 CP/M was developed by digital Research Inc., USA
- 132 MVS stands for Multiple Virtual Storage Operating System
- 133 MVS is used in Mainframe computers
- 134 The process of starting a computer is called Booting
- 135 A group of four binary digits is called a NIBBLE
- 136 BPI stands for Bit per Inch
- 137 A smart card is a multifunctional microprocessor
- 138 LIPS stands for Logical Inferences Per Second

139 A computerized machine is normally called a Robot  
140 A robot is a machine directed by a Computer  
141 A robot which resembles a human being is called an Android  
142 PL/1 stands for Programme Language-1  
143 The language PL/1 has combined features of COBOL and FORTRAN  
144 BASIC stands for Beginners All Purpose Symbolic Instruction Code  
145 COBOL stands for Common Business Oriented Language  
146 ALGOL stands for Algorithmic Language  
147 ALGOL was developed in the early 1960s in Europe  
148 COBOL was first introduced in the year 1961  
149 FORTRAN stands for Formula Translation  
150 FORTRAN was developed and introduced by IBM in the year 1957  
151 PL/1 was introduced in the 1960s by IBM  
152 COMAL stands for Common Algorithmic Language  
153 BASIC was developed by John Kemeny and Thomas Kurtz  
154 SNOBOL stands for String Oriented Symbolic Language  
155 SNOBOL was developed in 1962  
156 LISP stands for List Processing Language  
157 LISP was developed by John McCarthy  
158 Loud speaker was invented by Rice Kellogg  
159 PROM stands for Programmable Read Only Memory  
160 Two types of RAM chips are Dynamic,static  
161 Data is fed into the computer by first converting it into Binary codes

## Games & Sports

No.	Question	Answer
1.	Which bowler has bowled the maximum balls in a Test Match ?	S.Ramadin bowled 774 balls against England in the 1957 Test series
2.	When did India play her first official One Day International Match ?	Against England on July 13, 1974
3.	What is Sunil Gavaskar's highest First Class Cricket Score?	340 run against Bengal in 1981-82
4.	Which batsman has hit the maximum centuries in First Class Cricket ?	Jeek Hobbs of England 197 centuries
5.	Which bowler has the most expensive bowling analysis in a World Cup Match ?	M.Snedden of N.Zealand,against England during 1983 world cup : 12-01-105-02
6.	Which bowler has the most economical bowling analysis in a World Cup Match ?	B.S. Bedi of India, 12-8-6-1 against E.Africa in 1975 World Cup
7.	What was Sachin Tendulkar's age in his Test debut for India ?	16 years 201 days
8.	Against which bowler did Gavaskar take his 10,000th run in Test cricket ?	Ejaz Fakih of Pakistan in the Ahmedabad Test of the 1986-87 series
9.	Name the first batsman to hit a triple century in Test cricket ?	England's Walter Hammond
10.	Name the inventor of snooker	Nevil Bowles Chamberlain
11.	When and where did Basketball originate ?	1891; Springfield,Massachusetts
12.	In which country did Rugby originate ?	England
13.	Which martial art was created by the Japanese, Dr.Jigoro Kano?	Judo
14.	Of which country is baseball a national game?	The U.S.A.
15.	In which country was the backstroke swimming invented?	Egypt
16.	Who are the participants of the 'Special Olympic Games'?	Mentally retarded children & adults
17.	When and where were the first 'Special Olympic Games' held?	1968 in the U.S.A.
18.	Who is known as the father of Modern Olympic Games?	Barren D'Kobertin
19.	Mention the name of the award given to the famous cricketer Sunil Gavaskar by the Indian Government?	Padma Bhushan
20.	Which athlete is known as the Flying Sikh?	Milkha Singh
21.	When was Basketball Federation of India established ?	1950
22.	In which year P.T. Usha was declared as the best Athlete in World Railway Games ?	1985
23.	When was Basket Ball included in olympics?	Cycling

24. Who won the Grand Slam in tennis for the first time? Donald Budge
25. With which game is Zafar Iqbal associated? Hockey
26. For which game is the Indira Gold Cup being awarded? Women's Hockey
27. Who is named the wizard of Hockey? Major Dhyan Chand of India
28. Who was the youngest player to make a century in cricket Tests? Mustaq Mohammed of Pakistan
29. What is the full name of Pele, the football player? Edmond Arantos Nessimente De Pele
30. When was Football first included in the Olympics? 1900 Paris Olympics
31. Which is the oldest Football tournament? Durand Cup Tournament
32. Which is the national game of America? Base Ball
33. Who is known as the Chess king? Bobby Fisher
34. The Abdul Razak Trophy is awarded in which sports? Chess
35. Mention the name of the International shooter who was also Maharaja of Bikaner? Karni Singh
36. Who is nicknamed as 'Haryana Hurricane'? Kapil Dev
37. Who became the youngest Asian to swim the English Channel? Abhijit Rao of India
38. Who is the first woman in the world to cross the strait of Gibraltar? Arti Pradhan
39. In which country did Golf originate? Scotland
40. Which award is given to the persons who have excelled in the field of coaching? Dronacharya
41. Which is the National Sport of Japan? Judo
42. Who won the first Himalayan Car Rally? Shekhar Mehta of Kenya
43. Which is the biggest Stadium in the World? Strahow Stadium at prague
44. Which is the oldest game in the world? Polo
45. Which is the country that first played chess? India
46. When did Geet Sethi receive his first professional title? 1991
47. Who was the first boxer to receive Arjuna Award? Buddy De'suza
48. Name the first Indian Chess player who defeated the world champion? Sultan Khan
49. Name the cities which have hosted the Olympic Games twice? Paris, London, Los Angeles
50. With what sport is Madison Square Garden associated? Boxing
51. Which Indian hockey player has scored maximum goals in olympics? Surinder Singh Sodhi 16 goals
52. Which sport is known as Toxophily? Archery

53. Who was the first Indian to score a double century against the West Indies? Dilip Sardesai
54. How many players make a Baseball Team? Nine
55. What are the two types of style adopted in international weightlifting? Snatch & the Clean & Jerk
56. Kapil Dev the Indian Cricketer has written his autobiography. Name the book? By Gods Grace
57. Which famous cricketer retired from cricket after the Reliance Cup? Sunil Gavaskar

## Well-known Quotations

No.	Well-Known quotations	Name
01	`A thing of beauty is a joy for ever'	Keats
02	`Beauty is truth,truth beauty'	Keats
03	`The child is the father of man'	Wordsworth
04	`I came,I saw,I conquered'	Julius Caesar
05	`Cowards die many times before their death' The valiant never taste of death but once'	Shakespeare
06	`The government of the people,by the people,for the peopleshall not perish from the earth'	Lincoln
07	`Oh East is East,and west is West, and never the twain shall meet. Till Earth and Sky stand presently at God's great judgement seat.' Rudyard Kipling	
08	`Paths of glory lead but to the grave.'	Gray
09	`But be not afraid of greatness; some are born great, some achieve greatness and some have greatness thrust upon them.' Shakespeare	
10	`Knowledge is power.'	Hobbes
11	`I know nothing except the fact of my ignorance.'	Socrates
12	`Nature never did betray the heart that loved her.'	Wordsworth
13	`Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel.'	Dr.Samuel Johnson
14	`Who rises from prayer a better man, his prayer is answered.'	George Menedith
15	`Reading maketh a full man, his prayer is answered.'	Francis Bacon
16	`The more Things a man is ashamed of,the more respectable he is.'	Bernard Shaw
17	`Our sweetest songs are those that tell of saddest thought.'	Shelly
18	`Tis strang but true; for truth is always strang.'	Byron
19	`Let a hundred flowers bloom and let a hundred schools of thought content.'	Mao Tse-tung
20	`God is in His heaven,all's right with the world.'	Browning
21	`For men many come and men may go, but I go on for ever.'	Tennyson
22	`I have nothing to offer but blood,toil,tears and sweet.'	Churchill
23	`Give us good mothers and I shall give you good nation.'	Napoleon
24	`Long years ago we have made a tryst with destiny.'	Jawaharlal Nerhu
25	`Brevity is the soul of with.'	Shakespeare



- 26 `Variety is the very spice of life.' William Cowper
- 27 `Jealousy, the jaundice of the soul.' Shakespeare
- 28 `All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others.' Orwell
- 29 `Stone walls do not a prison make, nor iron bars a cage.' Richard Lovelace
- 30 `Swaraj is my birth-right and I shall have it.' Balgangadhar Tilak
- 31 `Man is by nature a political animal.' Aristotle
- 32 `Where wealth accumulates, men decay.' Goldsmith
- 33 `Good government is no substitute for self-government.' Morley
- 34 `Nevertheless it moves.' Galileo
- 35 `Generations to come, it may be, will scarce believe that such a one as this ever in flesh and blood walked upon this earth.' Einstein
- 36 `Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely.' Lord Acton
- 37 `Just as I would not like to be a slave, so I would not like to be a master.' Lincoln
- 38 `Eureka, Eureka.' Archimedes
- 39 `Frailty, thy name is woman.' Shakespeare
- 40 `Whom gods love, die young.' Byron
- 41 `Do or die.' Gandhiji
- 42 `Dilli Chalo.' Subhash Chandra Bose
- 43 `Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan.' Lal Bahadur Shastri
- 44 `Truth and Non-violence are my God.' Mahatma Gandhi

## Medical Science

No.	Question	Answer
01	An infection of the gums involving margin of the teeth with the gum is known as	Pyorrhoea
02	Drugs which reduce tension,anxiety,depression,etc. are known as	Tranquillizers
03	A swelling of the thyroid gland is known as	Goitre
04	Typhoid fever is caused by	Salmonella typhi bacteria
05	Plague was also known as	Black death
06	AIDS stands for	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
07	Diseases which spread by contact are called	Contagious diseases
08	Scarlet fever is caused by	Strepto coccus
09	The sterilization technique carried out on men is	Vasectomy
10	The ability of a living creature to resist the attack of diseases is known as	Immunity
11	How many senses a human being has	Five
12	Medical practioners without valid licence are called	Quacks
13	In a human baby,teething process starts from the age	Seven months
14	A method of treating cancer or tumor growth using chemicals is known as	Chemotherapy
15	Meningitis is caused by	Neisseria meningitis
16	Tetanus is caused by	Clostridium tetane
17	Leukemia is commonly known as	Blood Cancer
18	An area of pus formation within the lung is called	Lung abscess
19	Meningitis is an infection of	Head and spinal cord
20	A sudden interruption of the blood supply to the brain can cause a	Stroke
21	A hereditary lack of pigment in the skin, <a href="#">hair</a> & eyes is known as	Albinism
22	Psoraisis is an inherited disease of	Skin, <a href="#">nails</a> and joints
23	A fungus is a	Microscopic plant

24	A condition in which both eyes do not point in the same direction is called as	Squint
25	Short sightdness is also known as	Myopia
26	Short sightdness is	Concave lens
27	Long sightdness is also known as	Hypermetropia
28	Long sightdness is corrected by using	Convex lens
29	A condition in which one is not able to see both near and distant objects is known as	Pressbyopia
30	Both convex and concave lens is used to correct the eyesight of a person suffering from	Pressbyopia
31	An inflammation of the thin membrane that covers the black part of the eye is called	Conjunctivitis
32	Acute conjunctivitis is commonly known as	black eye
33	How many bones an adult human body has	206
34	How many bones an human baby's body has	270
35	Blood vessels that carry blood from different organs to the heart are known as	Aneries
36	Blood vessels that carry blood from different organs to the heart are known as	Veins
37	The main artery of the body is the	Arota
38	Skin is the sense organ for	Touch
39	Eyes are the sense organ for	Sight
40	Nose is the sense organ for	Smell
41	Tongue is the sense organ for	Taste
42	Ears are the sense organs for	Hearing
43	Muscles of the heart are called	Cardiac muscles
44	In a human body,about how many muscles are there	650
45	A break in the continuity of a bone is called a	Fracture
46	A progressive weakening of muscles is called	Muscular dystrophy
47	Damage to a nerve is termd as	Meuropathy

48	Biceps are the muscles of the	Arm
49	Malaria is transmitted by	Anopheles mosquito
50	There are how many types of Malaria	Three
51	BCG stands for	Bacillus Calmette Guerin
52	BCG is a vaccine given for immunization against the disease	Tuberculosis
53	DPT is a	Triple vaccine
54	DPT is effective against	Diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus
55	DPT vaccine is given how many times to children	Three
56	Vaccine against polio is called	Poliomyelitis vaccine
57	Vaccine is a liquid containing	Dilute or dead pathogens
58	The first antibiotic discovered by	Penicillin
59	Spherical shaped bacteria are called	coccus
60	Rod shaped bacteria are called	Bacillus
61	Spiral shaped bacteria are called	Spirillum
62	Comma shaped bacteria are called	Vibrio
63	The size of a virus is about	A millionth of a centimeter
64	Plague is caused by bacteria which is found in	Fleas on the bodies of rats
65	Dengue fever is also known as	Break-bone fever
66	Q fever was first noticed in	Queensland
67	Anthrax is caused by	Anthrax bacillus
68	Cholera is caused by	Vibrio cholerae bacteria
69	Tetanus is also known as	Lockjaw disease
70	Diphtheria is caused by	Klebs-loeffler
71	Whooping cough is caused by	Bordetella pertussis
72	Sex is predicted before the birth of the child by a test called	Amnio centesis
73	The outer layer of the skin is called	Epidermis
74	The inner layer of the skin is called	Dermis

75	Over exposure to sun cause	Sun burn
76	LSD stands for	Lysergic acid Di-ethylamide
77	Drugs which produce total unconsciousness are known as	General anaesthetics
78	Drugs which produce loss of sensation in a small area where the drug is applied are called	Local anaesthetics
79	Drugs which neutralize secretions of the stomach which cause ulcers and acidity are called	Antacids
80	ELISA technique is used to detect	AIDS
81	NMR stands for	Nuclear Magnetic Resonance
82	Teeth are covered by a hard substance called	Enamel
83	Insulin is also known as	Anti-diabetic hormone
84	Insulin deficiency causes	Diabetes
85	Inflammation of the pancreas is called	Pancreatitis
86	A normal pregnancy lasts for about	40 weeks
87	The device which improves one's hearing is called	Hearing aid
88	Persons who are having blood group O positive are called	Universal donors
89	Persons who are having blood group AB positive are called	Universal recipients
90	Red cells of blood contain	Haemoglobin
91	The formation of a blood clot within a blood vessel is called	Thrombosis
92	The sex hormone of the male is	Androgen
93	The sex hormones of the females are	Estrogen and progesterone
94	Delivery of more than one baby at a time is called as	Multiple pregnancy
95	A pregnancy that ends before the 28th week is termed as	Miscarriage
96	A condition where the lung tissue collapses is known as	Atelectasis
97	A condition in which the lung tissue loses its elasticity is known as	Emphysema
98	Pneumonia is an infection of the	Lungs
99	Pus formation in the lung is called	Lung abscess
100	Bronchiectasis is a disease of the which system	Respiratory

101	The colour of the skin is dependant upon a pigment called	Melanin
102	Eczema is a disease of the	Skin
103	A condition wherein the pressure within the eyeball is increased above normal is called	Glaucoma
104	The number of teeth in a normal human being are	32
105	Substances that cause allergy are called	Allergens
106	Hay fever is a type of	Allergy
107	Leukemia is a disease of the	Blood
108	Tissue taken from the patient while operation is going on is called	Frozen section
109	EEG stands for	Electro encephalography
110	EEG is used to record the activities of the	Brain
111	EMG stands for	Electromyography
112	EMG is used for recording for the activity of the	Muscles during contraction
113	The x-ray visualisation of a joint is known as	Arthrography
114	A device used to regularise irregular heart beats is called	Pace-maker
115	A doctor who is a specialist in matters related to the heart and circulatory system is called a	Cardiologist
116	In medical terminology, ENT stands for	Ear, nose and throat
117	A gynaecologist specialises in matters related to	Reproductive system
118	Copper T is a type of device used for	Contraception
119	A Psychiatrist specialises in matters related to	Mental disorders
120	Typhoid vaccine was invented by	Almorth Writht
121	Polio vaccine was invented by	Jonas Salk
122	Contact lenses were invented by	A.E.Fick
123	Vaccination was invented by	Edward Jenner

## Adventure

No.	Question	Answer
1.	What does the Japanese word 'Karate' mean literally?	Open hand
2.	With which water sport are jumping,slaloming and trick riding associated?	Water Skiing
3.	Which sport was a traditional English 'pub' game?	Darts
4.	Which modern martial art was developed from 'Jujitsu'?	Judo
5.	Which game is played at the Embassy World Professional Championship?	Snooker
6.	What sport is 'angling'?	Fishing
7.	With what sport would you associate 'alley' or 'lane'?	Bowling
8.	Which city is known as the 'Pearl of the Orient'?	Singapore
9.	Which capital city is said to be the oldest in the world and in which country it is located?	Damascus,the capital of Syria
10.	Which is the largest city in Africa?	Cairo,capital of Egypt
11.	What was Christopher Columbus's nationality?	Italian
12.	At the mouth of which river is Hong Kong situated?	Perl River
13.	Which Central American nation was formerly known as British Honduras?	Belize
14.	After whom was Bolivia named?	Simon Bolivar
15.	Which two countries enjoy the highest standard of living in S.America?	Venezuela & Argentina
16.	Where is the Carribean Sea?	Between West Indies & South America
17.	Name the only ape that can stand and walk upright?	Gibbon
18.	Which are the countries linked by the Karakoram Highway?	China & Pakistan
19.	What does leser mean?	Light amplification by stimulated emission of



radiation

- |     |   |   |
|-----|---|---|
| 20. | Which sea separates Japan from the main-land of Asia?                           | The sea of Japan  |
| 21. | What is a group of dolphins called?   | Scholl  |
| 22. | What is a male ant called?  | A dron  |
| 23. | Name the mosquito which spreads malaria?  | The female Anopheles mos quito                                    |
| 24. | Istanbul is a major city of Turkey. What was its former name?                   | Constantinople  |
| 25. | Where is the headquarters of World Meteorological Organisation?                 | Geneva  |
| 26. | Name the countries having the veto power in the U.N. Security Council.          | U.S.A.,USSR,UK,FRANCE & CHINA                                     |
| 27. | What is called the "Roof of the World"?   | The pamirs in Central Asia  |
| 28. | Name the only planet that was discovered in the 20th century.                   | Pluto   |
| 29. | What is the boundary between Russia & Poland called?                            | The Curzon Line   |
| 30. | How much time does the light take to reach the Earth from the sun?              | A little more than 8 minutes                                      |
| 31. | What is the source of all energy on earth?                                      | The energy from the sun   |
| 32. | Which famous swimmer is known as the 'Albatross'?                               | Michael Gross   |
| 33. | Where was the martial art taekwon do developed?                                 | Korea   |
| 34. | Who developed taekwon do?   | Gen.Choi Hong Hi of Korea   |
| 35. | Which mountain ranges in Spain & California have the same name?                 | Sierra Nevada   |
| 36. | Which batsman has scored most runs in a day in Test Cricket?                    | Australia's Don Bradman 309 n.o. against England at leeds in 1930 |
| 37. | Which team won a one dayer twice with a six off of the last ball?               | Pakistan  |
| 38. | How many Indians have taken nine or more wickets in an innings in a Test Match? | 4 -Kapil Dev,Subhash Gupta,Jasu Patel & Anil Kumble               |

39.	Which is the largest plant in the world?	The Bis Trees of California
40.	What is 'smog'?	Smoke -laden fog
41.	Who is called the light of the world?	Jesus Christ
42.	Which is the major language of Egypt?	Arabic
43.	What does the phrase 'cakes and ale' mean?	A carefree or easy living
44.	What is the language of Chile?	spanish
45.	Which country is called the 'Land of Golden Fleece'?	Australia
46.	Which city of Russia had the old name St.Petersburg?	Leningrad
47.	Name the only bird which can fly backward as well as forward	The hemming bird
48.	Name the longest river of Canada	Mackenzie
49.	Name the highest military decoration of France.	Croix de Guerra
50.	Which gas is commonly used in electric bulbs?	Neon
51.	Which European city was founded in 1050,destroyed by fire in 1624, and rebuilt?	Oslo,capital of Norway
52.	What are plants that grow in water called?	Hydrophytes
53.	Which insect makes the loudest noise?	The mle cicada
54.	To which country does Greenland belong?	Denmark
55.	What is the other name for graphite?	Plumbago or black lead
56.	To which galaxy does the earth belong?	The Milky Way
57.	Where are the largest deposits of platinum found?	Ural Mountains,U.S.S.R.
58.	Name the only mammal that flies.	The Bat
59.	How would you recognize the leader of a wolf pack?	The leader holds his tail straight out,while others tails droop.
60.	What is a baby rabbit or squirrel called?	Bunny
61.	What is the study of evil spirits and demons called?	Demonology
62.	What is a group of Kangaroos called?	Mob

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|-----|---|---|
| 63. | Which language is most dominant in Latin America?                                       | Spanish   |
| 64. | Who said that 'Well begun is half done'?  | Horace  |
| 65. | Name the border line between Afghanistan and Pakistan.                                  | The Durand Line                                   |
| 66. | Who said that 'Science without religion is lame and religion without science is blind'? | Albert Einstein                                   |
| 67. | Name the longest river of Australia.  | Murray  |
| 68. | Name the highest mountain in Canada.  | Logan   |
| 69. | Name the only Shakespeare's play that included a dog.                                   | Two Gentlemen of Verona                           |
| 70. | Which city is called the 'City of Dreaming Spires'?                                     | Oxford  |
| 71. | After which emperor was July named?   | Julius Caesar                                     |
| 72. | Name the king of England who built the Tower of London.                                 | King William I                                    |
| 73. | After Amazon, which is the major river of South America?                                | Paraha  |
| 74. | Which king of France was called the Citizen King?                                       | Louis Phillippe                                   |
| 75. | Who first discovered radioactivity?   | Marie Curie                                       |
| 76. | Aesop has been attributed with famous fables. What did he work as?                      | He was a slave                                    |
| 75. | Who is known as the 'Maid of Orleans'?  | Joan of Arc of France                             |
| 78. | From which country did the Portugese bring tobacco to India in 1508?                    | Peru  |
| 79. | Which European country is known as the 'Land of Cakes'?                                 | Scotland  |
| 80. | Name the ethical practice in Jainism, of not causing harm to any living thing.          | Ahimsa  |
| 81. | Which is the longest strait in the world?   | Tartar Straits                                    |
| 82. | In which part of the world is the river Snake?  | U.S.A.  |
| 83. | Which is the tallest race in the world?   | The Tutsi,they live in Central Africa and have an |

average height of 185 cms. or 6 ft. 1 inch.

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|------|---|--|
| 84.  | Name the International Line forming the border between India and China on the eastern side. | The Mc Mohan Line  |
| 85.  | Which is the largest port in the world?   | New York Har   |
| 86.  | Which is the longest river in Asia?   | The river Ob(5538 kms) in the U.S.S.R.   |
| 87.  | Of which crop is Bangladesh the greatest producer in the world?                             | Tasmania   |
| 88.  | What is the science of coins & medals called?   | Numismatic   |
| 89.  | What is amnesia?  | Loss or impairment of memory   |
| 90.  | What is a young cow called?   | Heifer   |
| 91.  | Which language is known as Cape Dutch?  | Afrikaans  |
| 92.  | Which batsman scored a century in a First Class Match without a single boundary?            | Bill Woodfull of Australia; 118 runs   |
| 93.  | Which bowler has taken Gavaskar's wicket the maximum times?                                 | D.Underwood of England 12 times  |
| 94.  | What is the record for most runs scored in a Test match?                                    | G.Gooch of England. 456 runs (333 & 123 against (India) at Lord's in 1990-91.                        |
| 95.  | What is the record for most sixes hit in an innings in First class cricket?                 | 15 sixes.Hit by Johan Reid,Wellington v/s Northern Districts,1962-63                                 |
| 96.  | Who is the youngest player to score a double century in Test Cricket?                       | Javed Miandad.He was 19 years,141 days when he scored 206 against N.Zealand at Karachi in 1976-77.   |
| 97.  | Where are the world's largest diamond and gold mining areas?                                | Kimberley in South Africa  |
| 98.  | Which is the largest silver producing country in the world?                                 | Mexico   |
| 99.  | What was the former name of Ghana?  | Gold Coast or 'Land of Gold'.  |
| 100. | Which is the largest bay in the world?  | In area,the Bay of Bengal is the largest.However,in shore line length, the Hudson Bay is the largest |
| 101. | Which is the largest delta formed by two rivers?  | That created by the Ganga & Brahmaputra in West Bengal and Bangladesh                                |
| 102. | Which is the deepest lake in the world?   | Ozero (lake) Baykal in Central Siberia   |
| 103. | Can the giraffe outspeed the Kangaroo?  | Yest. At 35 miles (56 km) an hour  |

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|------|--|---------------------|
| 104. | How many claws does a crab have?   | Five pairs          |
| 105. | Name the largest freshwater lake.  | Lake Superior       |
| 106. | Name the most poisonous fish.  | Stonefish           |
| 107. | Mafia is a secret society operating in different parts of the world. Which place is considered to be its origin? | Sicily Italy        |
| 108. | Name the fastest fish in the world.  | Atlantic Sailfish   |
| 109. | Who founded the Maurya dynasty in ancient India?   | Chandragupta Maurya |

## Animals & Birds

No.	Question	Answer
01	The largest bird alive is the	Ostrich
02	The smallest bird alive is the	Humming bird
03	An animal doctor is called a	Veterinarian
04	How many arms an octopus has	Eight
05	The arms of the octopus are called	Tentacles
06	The fastest moving land snake in the world is the	Black Mamba
07	A group of lions is called a	Pride
08	A group of invertebrate animals which have segments body and jointed limbs are called	Arthropods
09	A period of dormancy in winter by some animals known as	Hibernation
10	Animals having backbone (vertebra) are known as	Vertebrates
11	Albatross is a large	Sea bird
12	A small fish having a head like that of a horse is known as	Sea horse
13	African donkey with black and white stripes is called a	Zebra
14	A small worm which lives in ponds and rivers and sucks the blood of animals is	Leech
15	The world's largest zoological reserve is the	Etosha National Park,Namibia
16	Egg laying mammals are called	Prototherians
17	The bird which lays more than 100 eggs in one nest is the	Ostrich
18	The largest Kangaroo in the world is the	Red Kangaroo
19	The only mammal that can fly is the	Bat
20	The animal revered by the buddhists as their sacred animal is the	White elephant
21	It is widely believed that Ostrich buries its head in sand which is	Not true
22	Austrian scientist Konard Lorenz is famous for	Study on Geese
23	Bharatpur bird sanctuary is situated in	Rajasthan
24	The fish which is known as the king of fishes is the	Shark

25	The world's largest aquarium is the	Sydney Aquarium
26	The tallest living animal is the	Giraffe
27	India's first sanctuary was the	Corbett National Park in Uttar Pradesh
28	The largest living animal is the	Rorqual or blue whale
29	The continent which is known as the land of Kangaroo is	Australia
30	The first forest show was established in Mexico in the year	1898
31	The country in which Yak is found is	Tibet
32	The country in which kiwi is found is	New Zealand
33	Wadia Institute of Himalayan Zoology is located at	Delhi
34	Dudhwa National Park is located in	Uttar Pradesh
35	The wildlife sanctury where we find asiatic lion is the	Gir Forest
36	A two humped camel is called	A Bacteria camel
37	Butterflies come under the family	Lepidoptera
38	The temple in which rats are revered,fed and protected is the	Karnimata in Rajasthan
39	The fastest land animal is the	Cheetah
40	The largest land animal is the	African bush elephant
41	Rat snakes are found in	South-East Asia
42	A common domesticated animal which cannot taste sweet is the	Cat
43	The world's smallest animal is the	Skunk like zorilla of Africa
44	The mammal that lives at the greatest altitude is the	Hog nosed bat
45	The smallest member of the cat family is the	Yak
46	The only flying mammals are the	Rusty spotted cat of south India
47	The largest flying mammal is the	Bats
48	The world's largest deer is the	Mouse eared bat
49	The world's heaviest flying bird is the	Alaskan moose
50	The bird which has the largest wing span is the	Great Bustard
51	The largest of all lizards is the	Albatros



52	The largest known frog is the	Ora
53	The longest known frog is the	Goliath Grog
54	The longest insect in the world is the	Giant stick Insect
55	The fastest moving insect in the world is the	Tropical cockroach
56	The giant stick Insect is found in	Indonesia
57	There are how many kinds of cat species in India	Fifteen
58	The animal known as the river horse is the	Hippopotamus
59	The elephant's trunk is actually a modified	Incisor
60	The diet of a gorilla is purely	Vegetarian
61	The only ape found in India is the	Hoolock's Gibbon
62	The number of known species of mammals are	4230
63	The fish that can taste with its whole body is the	Catfish
64	The average weight of a blue whale is	1,20,000 kg.
65	The most widely eaten fish in India is the	Pomfret
66	The only fish that makes nest is the	Stickle back
67	A group of peacocks are called a	Muster
68	Gold fish originally belongs to	China
69	Red panda is also known as the	Cat bear
70	A female rabbit is called a	Doe
71	A female horse is called a	Mare
72	A female pig is called a	Sow
73	The whale believed to be a fish,is actually a	Mammal
74	The organ which is missing in the Camel is the	Gall bladder
75	The Archer fish catches its flies by	Spitting at them
76	The smallest known fish is the	Dwaft pygmy goby
77	The country which is the largest exporter of hippopotamuses in Europe is	Hungary
78	A bird which lays only one egg in two years is the	Albatross

79	The size of a newly born kangaroo is	2.5 cms
80	The only animal that sleeps on its back is	Man
81	The only animal which has four knees is the	Elephant
82	An animal which is dumb is the	Giraffe
83	A frog catches insects with its	Tongue
84	The number of teeth a fox has is	Forty two
85	The smallest dog on earth is the	Chihuahua
86	A common domesticated animal which is colour-blind is the	Dog
87	The largest seabird is the	Albatross
88	A group of eagles are called a	Convocation
89	A group of hares are called a	Husk
90	A group of quail are called a	Bevy
91	A group of fish are called a	Shoal
92	A group of sheep are called a	Flock
93	A group of wolves are called a	Pack
94	A group of cattle are called a	Herd
95	A group of gorillas are called a	Band
96	A group of elephants are called a	Herd
97	The female of a stag are called a	Hind
98	The male of a cow is called a	Bull
99	The young of an elephant is called a	Calf
100	The young one of a goat is called a	Kid
101	The cat belongs to the family called	Falidate
102	The cat which is commonly used in the hunting game is the	Cheetah
103	The largest member of the cat family is the	Tiger
104	A camel can remain without water for	30 days
105	Ranganthittu bird sanctuary is located near	Mysore
106	The oldest domestic Cat on record lives for how many years	Thirty six

107	How many teeth a horse has	Forty
108	Snow leopards are found in	Himalayas
109	The insect which has the largest population on earth is the	Wasp
110	Fishes evolved in which era	Silurian
111	Elephant fish are found in	Tropical Africa
112	How many arms a giant squid has	Ten
113	The whale's nostrils are situated on the	Top of its head
114	The largest Indian deer is the	Sambar
115	The average pregnancy period of a female dog is	63 days
116	Penguins are found in the	South pole
117	Project Tiger was launched in India in the year	1972
118	The largest division of the animal kingdom is the	Arthropoda
119	The first animal to go into space was	Dog
120	How many teeth a turtle has	Eight
121	The number of bones in the giraffe's neck is	Seven
122	A fox's tail is called a	Brush
123	A female Ass is called as	Jenny
124	The young once of a tiger are called	Ligon
125	A squirrel's home is called a	Drey
126	A group of snakes are called a	Den
127	A group of foxes are called a	Skulk
128	The word hamster means	Hoarder
129	A group of cats are called a	Clutter
130	The word langur means	Long tailed
131	The Science of fossils is called	Palaentology
132	A young kangaroo is called a	Joey
133	A young pigeon is called a	Swab

134 The word reptile means

To creep

## Social Sciences

No.	Question	Answer
1.	Who lives in Buckingham Palace in London?	Queen Elizabeth II
2	Where was Homi Bhabha, the nuclear Scientist born?	Bombay
3	Which country started the ancient Olympic games?	Greeks
4.	Which is the largest Gulf?	Gulf of Mexico
5.	Which is the largest country in terms of area?	Soviet Union
6.	Who discovered the Polio Vaccine?	Dr.Jonak Salk
7.	Who was given the title of Desert fox?	Field Marshal Erwin Rommel
8.	Who invented shorthand?	Issac Pitman
9.	1952 A.D. is an important year in British History why?	King George VI
10	By the side of which city does the river Ottawa flow?	Montreal
11.	Which is the land of five rivers in India?	Punjab
12.	Which is the lowest mountain range in the world?	Bhieuna Bhaile
13.	Which country is called the Land of Morning Calm?	Korea
14.	Which city is called the city of Sky scrapers?	New York
15.	What is defined as the locus of a point moving so that its distance from a fixed point and fixed line are equal?	Parabola
16.	What is the principal export of Jamaica?	Sugar
17.	Glimpses of World History is a collection of letters written by Jawaharlal Nehru. To whom were these letters written?	Indira Gandhi
18.	Where did Gautama Buddha attain Nirvana?	Kushi Nagar
19.	Which organs of flowering plants take in water?	Roots
20.	Where was Alaxander the Great born, where did his death occur & where was he burried?	Europe (Macedonia) Babylonia (Asia) & Alexanderia (Egypt)
21.	Is there any age restriction to donate one's Eyes?	No
22.	September 3rd is related to the second world war what is its significance?	Britain & Germany went to war
23.	Is it true that snakes have eyelids?	No

24.	To what animal family does the dog belong?	Wolf & Jackel
25.	By what name is the Parliament of Algeria called?	National Popular Assembly
26.	Where do investors sell second hand shares?	Stock Exchange
27.	Who established four 'Mutts' in four corners of India?	Adi Shankaracharya
28.	Which Mughal Emperor was regarded as 'Zinda Pir'?	Aurangazeb
29.	Rabindranath Tagore gave up his knighthood because of which incident?	Jalianwalabagh tragedy
30.	Where is the sea of Tranquility located?	On the Moon
31.	Who is the first Indian to go into Space?	Rakesh Sharma
32.	When was Goa liberated?	December 19,1961
33.	Who pointed out the role of heredity?	Mendel
34.	Who was India's first chief of Naval Staff?	R.D.Katari
35.	Who played the Pivotal role in Sir Richard Attenborough's Gandhi?	Ben Kinseley
36.	Who was also known as Shahid-e-Azam?	Bhagat Singh
37.	Who wrote the book 'Satyarthha Prakasha'?	Swami Dayanand Saraswati
38.	Who first discovered the Pacific Ocean?	Vaso Nunez de Balboa
39.	Who is known as the father of Indian Nuclear Science?	Homi Bhabha
40.	Who invented the Refrigerator?	J. Perkins
41.	Which is the longest road tunnel in the world?	Tunnel under that Gothard Mountain range in Switzerland (16 km)
42.	What are the measurements of a single's Badminton court?	44 ft * 17 ft
43.	Who is the founder of Modern Germany?	Bismarck
44.	In which country would you find the Yak?	Tibet
45.	When did the Traveller Hawkins visit India?	1608 AD
46.	Which city is called the city of Golden temple?	Amritsar
47.	Which is the other name of Porus, who nearly defeated Alexander?	Purushottam
48.	Who was the President of the Indian National Congress as its first session held in 1885?	Womesh Chandra Banerji

49.	A famous Indian Badminton player was shot dead. Who was he?	Syed Modi
50.	When is Independence day celebrated in South Korea?	15th August
51.	Where is Diamond Harbour located?	Calcutta
52.	With what game is Paul Charles Morphy associated?	Chess
53.	When did Ceylon became Srilanka?	May 1972
54.	Who designed the Rastrapathi Bhavan in Delhi?	Sir Edwin Lutyens
55.	What is the temperature of the warm blooded animals?	Remain Constant
56.	In which state is Malayalam Spoken?	Kerala
57.	In which state is the famous Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary situated?	Rajasthan
58.	Which country is famous for Samba Dance?	Brazil
59.	From where did Jesus ascend to heaven?	Mount of Olives
60.	On the bank of which river is Amaravathi located?	Krishna
61.	Which day is known as world environment day?	June 5th
62.	During whose regime were the Rock cut temples of Kailasa and Ellora carved?	Krishna I
63.	In which country did the first Industrial Revolution take place?	England
64.	Which is the National flower of China?	Narcissus
65.	Who discovered Niagara Falls?	Louis Hennepin
66.	Which acid is used in a car battery?	Sulphuric acid
67.	Who invented dynamite?	Alfred Nobel
68.	Who was the first Governor General of Pakistan?	Mohammad ali Jinah
69.	Which state in India is the largest producer of Saffron?	Jammu & Kashmir
70.	Who invented the Steam Engine?	James Watt
71.	What is the botanical name for the Onion?	Allium cepa
72.	With what is Silviculture concerned?	Timber
73.	What is Herpetology?	Study of Reptiles
74.	What do you call a plant that eats insects?	Insectirorous Plants



75.	By using what waves does Radar detect objects?	Radiowaves
76.	What is the name of the element whose symbol is Cr?	Chromium
77.	What is the atomic number of Oxygen?	Eight
78.	Who proved that air has weight?	Galileo
79.	Where is Central Rice Research Institute located?	Cuttack
80.	Name the class of animals,that eats grass?	Herbivorous
81.	What is the other name for Sulphuric Acid?	Oil of Vitriol
82.	What was Galileo's first scientific discovery?	The pendulum
83.	Name the scientist, credited with the invention of the Crescograph?	J.C.Bose
84.	Who was the scientist in charge of the project which produced the atom bomb?	J. Robert Openheimer
85.	Which instrument is used to measure the diameter of a thin wire?	Screw Gauge
86.	Which is the substance that helps in the digestion of milk?	Rennin
87.	What is the unit of power?	Watts
88.	Which lens is used to correct long sight defect?	Concave
89.	In which form is Iron present in Blood?	Compound
90.	Name the instrument used in measuring relative humidity of air?	Hygrometer
91.	Name the Indian born scientist who got a Nobel Prize in the field of Medicine?	Hargobind Khorana
92.	Two elements that are commonly present in artificial fertilizers are Nitrogen & Phosphorus which is the third one?	Potassium
93.	Meningitis affects which part of the body?	Brain
94.	Why is an Altimeter used?	Approx. height above the ground
95.	Who propounded the Theory of Relativity?	Albert Einstein
96.	Do you know the real name of the famous writer Mark Twain?	Samuel Clemens
97.	Both father and son won Dadasaheb Phalke award.Who are they?	Prithviraj Kapoor & Raj Kapoor
98.	Raghuveer Yadav got the best actor award for the performance	Massey Saheb

in Hindi film. Name the film.

- |      |   |   |
|------|---|---|
| 99.  | How many silent movies were released in India before Talkie movies came into existence?                       | 1300  |
| 100. | Which is the smallest book in the world?  | Ari e-1 4mm x 1.40 mm Japanese publications |
| 101. | The popular comedian Charlie Chaplin came from which country?   | United Kingdom                              |
| 102. | The Adi Granth is a holy book of which religion?  | The Sikh Religion                           |
| 103. | What was the title of Mahatma Gandhi's autobiography?   | My Experiments with truth                   |
| 104. | Who is the author of King Solomon's Ring?   | Konard Lorenz                               |
| 105. | Which is the first country to use Postage stamps.   | Great Britain (1840)                        |
| 106. | Who is the creator of the character "Tarzan"?   | Edgar Rice Burroughs                        |
| 107. | Who planned Chandigarh city?  | Le Corbusier                                |
| 108. | Who is known as the Indian Prince of Poets?   | Kalidas                                     |
| 109. | Who built the first Pyramid?  | Cheops                                      |
| 110. | Complete the proverb 'A stitch in time....  | Savesnine                                   |
| 111. | Who is known as the "Father of Geometry"?   | Euclid                                      |
| 112. | Who wrote the play "Enemy of the people"?   | Henrik Ibsen                                |
| 113. | With which personality is Teacher's Day September 5th linked?   | Dr.S. Radhakrishnan                         |
| 114. | A comedian insured his nose for Ten lakh dollars.Who was he?  | Jimmy Durant                                |
| 115. | Who said that 'The fool has one great advantage over the man of Sense' - he is always satisfies with himself? | Napoleon                                    |
| 116. | With what is Bhimsen Joshi associated?  | Hindustani Music                            |
| 117. | What is the height of Qutub Minar?  | 288 feet                                    |
| 118. | In which place was the first Printing Press in India set up?  | Goa   |
| 119. | What does the letter 'U' stand for in the U certificate given by Censors Board?                               | Unrestricted public exhibition              |
| 120. | Which musical instrument does Bismillah Khan play?  | Shehnai                                     |
| 121. | Which is Shakespeare's Last Play?   | The Tempest                                 |

122. Who was the first Cartoonist to win the B.D. Goenka Award? R.K.Laxman

### **Famous Rivers, Lakes, Wasterfalls**

No.	River	Country	KM
01	Nile	Africa	6690
02	<a href="#">Amazon</a>	South America	6570
03	Mississippi Missouri	U.S.A.	6212
04	Irtys	USSR (now CIS)	5570
05	Yangtze-Kiang	China	5520
06	Hwang Ho	China	4672
07	Mekong	Asia	4184
08	Niger	Africa	4168
09	Murray Darling	Australia	3701
10	Volga	USSR (now CIS)	3690
11	Danube	Europe	2848
12	Indus	Asia	2736
13	Brahmaputra	Asia	2704

No.	Lakes	Country	SQ.KM
01	Caspian Sea	Russia-Iran	393898
02	Lake Superior	USA-Canada	82814
03	Victoria	Kenya-Uganda-Tanzania	69485
04	Aral (salt)	CIS (Previous USSR)	68682
05	Michigan	USA	58016
06	Great Bear	Canada	31792
07	Baikal	CIS	31492
08	Lake Ontario	USA-Canada	19529
09	Eyre (salt)	Australia	9324
10	Torrens (Salt)	Australia	5775

No.	Waterfalls	Country	Height(Feet)
01	Angel	Venezuela	2648
02	Kukenaam	Venezuela	2000
03	Ribbon	USA	1612
04	Tugela	South Africa	1350
05	Wollomombi	Australia	1100
06	Guaria	Brazil	470000
07	Niagara	Canada	212200
08	Victoria	Zimbabwe	38430

## Environment

No.	Question	Answer
01	The biggest energy source on the surface of the earth is	Solar radiation
02	The acid found in soil is	Humic acid
03	Burning of fossil fuels releases	Carbon-di-oxide
04	The place referred to as the Valley of Death is	Cubatao in Brazil
05	The Valley of Flowers is located at	Garhwal in Himalayas
06	The element found abundant in the crust of the earth is	Oxygen
07	99 percent of the crust of earth is composed of	Elements
08	The crust of the earth is called	Lithosphere
09	The type of soil found in the dessert is	Aridisols
10	Acid rain was discovered by	R.A.Smith
11	The simplest and least polluting way of deriving energy is	Solar energy
12	Junk of appliances and vehicles is known as	Solid Waste
13	Oceans are ecologically divided into how many regions	Five
14	Uranium miners more frequently suffer from	Cancer
15	Textile workers more frequently suffer from	Byssinosis
16	Coal miners more frequently suffer from	Black lung diseases
17	The type of living beings more sensitive to nuclear radiations are	Mammals
18	The most acute pollution problem faced by nuclear power industry is	Disposal of nuclear waste
19	Excessive inhaling of manganese causes	Pneumonia
20	Hay fever is due to the presence of which thing in the air	Pollen
21	The metal which causes systemic poisoning in man is	Lead
22	Dust containing silica causes	Silicosis
23	Intensive use of nitrate fertilizers causes	Methemoglobinemia
24	The most economic and pollution free <a href="#">form</a> of transport is	Bicycle

25	The main source of harmful radiations in our house can be due to	Televisions
26	The most recently discovered ecosystem is	Vent
27	The most biologically productive ecosystem is	Alluvial plains
28	Ecologists divide lakes into how many zones	Three
29	Death valley is located in which dessert	Nevada
30	Man first cultivated crops in which age	Neolithic
31	Sheep were initially dpmesticated for	Meat and milk
32	The industrial chemical which increases the chance of developing Leukemia is	Benzene
33	The Royal society for the Protection of Birds was formed in	1889 AD
34	`Man and the Biosphere'an ecological programme was launched by	UNESCO
35	Chemicals which get rid of pests are called as	Pesticides
36	The living beings which are known as teritary consumers are	Meat-eating animals
37	A motor car produces least amount of pollution while	Moving
38	The first living beings who established themselves on rocky slopes were	Lichens
39	Birds evolved on earth during the	Jurassic period
40	Water covers about how many percent of the earth's surface	Seventy
41	Oxygen was discovered by	Joseph Priestley
42	Oxygen was discovered in	August 1774
43	The word `Oxygen'was coined by	Antonie Levoiser
44	When something burns in air, it combines with oxygen and the process is called	Oxidation
45	When we breather,oxygen combines chemically with glucose in the body to create	Energy
46	The two major components of air are oxygen and	Nitrogen
47	The French chemist who showed that air was the same all around the world was	Henri Regnault
48	William Ramsay discovered that air also contained tiny traces	Inert gases



	of	
49	The gases which are slow to react with other chemicals are called	Inert gases
50	The air surrounding the earth is forever on the move because of	Sun's heat
51	A space with nothing in it is called	Vacuum
52	Air pressure is related to density of air. This was discovered by whom in 1662 AD	Robert Boyle
53	Earth's atmosphere has how many layers	Five
54	Moon gets very hot and very cold as it has no	Atmosphere
55	78 percent of the atmosphere is	Nitrogen
56	21 percent of the atmosphere is	Oxygen
57	The atmospheric layer immediately around the earth is called	Troposphere
58	The second atmospheric layer is called	Stratosphere
59	The third atmospheric layer is called	Mesosphere
60	The fourth atmospheric layer is called	Ionosphere
61	The fifth atmospheric layer is called	Exosphere
62	Human beings inhale what and give out what	Oxygen,carbon dioxide
63	Plants inhale what and give out what	Carbon dioxide,oxygen
64	Bubbles in soda water is due to presence of	Carbon dioxide
65	Ozone is actually a form of	<a href="#">Oxygen</a>
66	We are protected from ultraviolet radiation from the sun due to the presence of	Ozone layer
67	The main culprit which is destroying the ozone layer is	CFC gases
68	The main green house gas is	Carbon dioxide
69	As one goes higher in the atmosphere,air pressure	Decreases
70	As per Daniel Bernoulli,whenever air moves,its pressure	Drops
71	The most common compound on earth is	Water
72	Life originally emerged from	Water

73	About how many percent of the world's water is solid	Two
74	Less than how many percent of the world's water is fresh water	Three
75	The amount of water vapour in the atmosphere is known as	Humidity
76	Any substance that dissolve in the water vapour it absorbs is said to be	Deliquescent
77	Henry Cavendish proved that water was a compound which included	Hydrogen
78	The french chemist who showed that water was a simple compound of hydrogen and oxygen was	Antoine Lavoiser
79	In case of heavy water,oxygen combines with	Deuterium
80	A special type of hydrogen with an extra neutron in its nucleus is	Deuterium
81	Heavy water can be extracted from ordinary water by the process of	Distillation
82	In every water molecul,there are how many hydrogen atoms and how many oxygen atoms	Two,one
83	Water expands when it is	Frozen
84	Oxygen condenses at a temperature of	-183.c
85	The ultimate source of nearly all our energy is the	Sun
86	Solar cells turn light energy from the sun into	Electrical energy
87	Two types of basic energy is	Potential energy,kinetic energy
88	Energy that is not doing anything but is simply stored for action is called	Potential energy
89	Energy in the nucleus of an atom is called	Nuclear energy
90	As per the Law of Conservation of energy,energy can neither be nor be	Created,destroyed
91	In all energy conversions,heat is produced as	Waste
92	Coal,Oil,natural gas,etc.are known as	Fossil fuels
93	At the present rate of consumption of coal,it is estimated that it will last about	200
94	At the present rate of consumption of coal,it is estimated that	40

it will last about

- |     |   |  |
|-----|---|--|
| 95  | Nuclear energy is released by a process called  | fission  |
| 96  | It is estimated that nuclear power stations are presently producing about how many percent of world's electricity | 20   |
| 97  | Joule proved that heat was a form of  | Energy   |
| 98  | The sun heats the earth by a process called   | Radiation  |
| 99  | Nuclear radiations can cause an eye disease called  | Cataract   |
| 100 | A Landfill produces a pollutant gas,  | Methane  |
| 101 | The gases that produce acid rain are  | Sulphur dioxide and nitrous oxide                              |
| 102 | Hydrogen bomb was tested on a   | Pacific atoll  |
| 103 | The European river Rhine was till recently called as  | Europe's industrial sewer                                      |
| 104 | Ultraviolet radiations from the sun can cause   | Skin cancer  |
| 105 | When lakes become acidic,the substance used to counteract the acidity is  | Lime   |
| 106 | Water Resources Institute is located at   | Washington D.C.  |
| 107 | The science of human settlements is called  | Ekistics   |
| 108 | Bhopal Gas tragedy occured in   | 1984 AD  |
| 109 | The city which has the highest sulphur dioxide pollution is   | Milan  |
| 110 | CITES is an international law concerned with  | Endangered species   |
| 111 | CITES stands for  | Convention on Int.Trade in Endangered Species                  |
| 112 | NCEPC stands for  | National Committee on Environmental Planning and Co-ordination |
| 113 | Project JAWS deals with   | Winds  |
| 114 | JAWS stands for   | Joint Airport Weather Studies                                  |
| 115 | Project FAMOUS deals with   | Ocean beds   |
| 116 | FAMOUS stands for   | French-American Mid Ocean Under Sea Study                      |
| 117 | Pollution Control Research Institute is located at  | Hardwar  |
| 118 | International Environmental Prize is awarded by   | United Nations   |

- |     |  |                       |
|-----|--|-----------------------|
| 119 | The use of DDT for agricultural purposes was banned in India in the year | 1985 AD               |
| 120 | The major source of fuel in rural India is                               | Fuelwood and charcoal |
| 121 | Asia's largest slum is located at  | Mumbai                |
| 122 | The Department of Environment was set up in                              | 1980 AD               |

### Longest, Shortest, Deepest

No.	Question	Answer
01	Tallest Animal	Giraffe
02	Fastest Bird	Swift
03	Largest Bird	Ostrich
04	Smallest Bird	Humming Bird
05	Longest Railway Bridge	Lower Zambesi (Africa)
06	Longest Canal (Ship)	Baltic White Sea Canal (152 miles)
07	Highest City	Wen Chuan (China) 16000 ft.
08	Largest Continent	Asia
09	Smallest Continent	Australia
10	Highest Country	Tibet (The Pamirs)
11	Largest Country(in population)	China
12	Largest Country(in area)	USSR, now CIS (Common Wealth of Independent States)
13	Largest Day	June 21 (Northern Hemisphere)
14	Shortest Day	December 22(Northern Hemisphere)
15	Largest Desert	Sahara (Africa)
16	Deepest Lake	Baikal (Siberia) Average depth 2300 feet
17	Largest Lake (fresh water)	Lake Superior (USA) (31200 sq.miles)
18	Largest Lake (salt water)	Caspian Sea
19	Largest Masque	Jama Masjid,Delhi, area 10000 Sq.ft.
20	Highest Mountain Peak	Everest (Nepal) 29028 ft.
21	Highest Mountain Range	The Himalayas
22	Longest Mountain Range	The Andes (S.America),5500 miles
23	Biggest Museum	British Museum (London)
24	Largest Punissula	India
25	Hottest Place (World)	Azizia (Libya,Africa) 136 F

26	Biggest Planet	Jupiter
27	Smallest Planet	Mercury
28	Highest Plateau	Pamir (Tibet)
29	Longest Railway Platform	Sonepur Station(Bihar,India) 2480 feet long
30	Biggest Telescope	Mt.Palomar (USA)
31	Longest Railway Tunnel	Tanna (Japan) 13 1/2 miles
32	Largest Road Tunnel	Mount Blanc Tunnel (Between France and Italy),7 1/2 miles
33	Largest Volcano	Mauna Loa (Hawaii),crater 12400 in diameter
34	Longest Wall	Great Wall of China
35	Rainiest Spot (World)	Cherrapunji (Assam,India),annual Average 1041.78 inches Rainfall
36	Lightest Metal	Lithium
37	Biggest Temple	Angkor Vat,Kampuchia
38	Wingless Bird	Kiwi,New Zealand
39	Hardest Substance	Diamond
40	Largest Animal	Blue Whale,Recorded length 106 feet,Weight 195 tons
41	Largest land-Animal	African Elephant
42	Biggest Flower	Rafflesia (Java)Indonesia
43	Largest Stadium	Strahov Stadium in Praha,Czech Republic accommodation 240000 persons
44	Largest Diamond Mine	Kimbarley,south Africa
45	Longest Corridor	Rameshwaram TempleCorridor (5000 feet)

## Sports

No.	Question	Answer
01	The country that first played chess was	India
02	Prakash Padukone was a famous player of	Badminton
03	"Black Pearl" was the name given to	Pele
04	Nehru Mountaineering Institute is located at	Mahidanda, 200 kms from Dalhousie
05	The oldest game in the world is	Polo
06	The biggest stadium in the world is	Strahov stadium at Prague
07	The YMCA <a href="#">Coach</a> who originated volley ball was	A.T.Hallsted of America
08	Bobby Fischer was known as the	Chess king
09	The National game of America is	Baseball
10	The oldest football tournament is the	Durand Cup tournament
11	Major Dhyan Chand was a famous name in	Hockey
12	The first olympic games were held in	Athens
13	The first men to climb Mount everest were	Tensing and Hillary
14	The first Asian to win the Hong Kong seiko Super Tennis Title was	Ramesh Krishnan
15	Football was first included in the Olympic games in	1900
16	The term 'Knock Out' is associated with	Boxing
17	Wimbledon trophy is associated with	Lawn Tennis
18	The full name of the great footballer Pele is	Edmond Arantos Nessimente De Pele
19	The first Indian <a href="#">woman</a> to climb Mount Everest was	Bachendri Pal
20	The first batsman to score 10,000 runs in test cricket was	Sunil Gavaskar
21	The youngest player to score a century in the test Cricket is	Mushtaq Muhammad of Pakistan
22	The length of a cricket pitch is	22 yards
23	Major Dhyan Chand is also known as	Wizard of Hockey
24	'Clean and Jerk' is associated with	Weight lifting



25	Agakhan Gold Cup is associated with	Hockey
26	Indira Gandhi Gold Cup is awarded for	Women's Hockey
27	The game in which the referee is called the President is	Fencing
28	Zafar Iqbal was associated with	Hockey
29	In Basket ball,each team consists of how many players	Five
30	The first Grand Slam in tennis was won by	Donald Budge
31	Basket ball was included in the Olympics in the year	1936
32	Indian Golf Union was established in the year	1955
33	Milkha Singh won the prestigious Helms trophy in the year	1953
34	IFA stands for	Indian Football Association
35	Donald Bradman was associated with	Cricket
36	Milkha singh was popularly known as the	Flying sikh
37	The first Indian to secure a Grandmaster norm in chess is	Vishwanathan Anand
38	Geet Sethi received his first professional title in the year	1991
39	The first boxer to receive Arjuna Award was	Buddy De'suza
40	The first Indian woman National Snooker <a href="#">champion</a> was	Judi Walia
41	The first Indian Chess player who defeated the world champion was	Sultan Khan
42	The men's singles Wimbledon championship of 1997 was won by	Pete Sampras
43	The 12th Asian Games were hosted by	Japan
44	The 8th Asian Games were held in	Bankok
45	In cricket,LBW stands for	Leg Before Wicket
46	The overall length of a Badminton court is	44 feet
47	The Indian hockey player who has scored the maximum goals in olympics is	Surinder Singh Sodhi
48	Joe Louis is associated with	Boxing
49	Prudential world cup was awarded for	Cricket
50	`To hell with hockey' was written by	Aslam Sher Khan
51	The sport also known as Toxophily is	Archery

52	The height of the cricket stumps is	71.12 cms
53	The name of the cricket test venue at Leeds is	Headingley
54	The first Indian woman powerlifter to set a world record was	Sumita Latha
55	The name of the cricket test venue at Birmingham is	Edgbaston
56	The first Indian to score a double hundred against the West Indies was	Dilip Sardesai
57	The diameter of the Tennis ball is	63.5 to 67 mm
58	Divyendu Barua is associated with	Chess
59	The youngest player to lead a country in test cricket was	Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi
60	The first Test Cricket player of India was	K.S. Ranjit Singh
61	The youngest player to play cricket for England was	D.B.Close
62	The cricketer A.L.Thomson was nicknamed	Froggy
63	`Story of a Cricket Person' was written by	E.W.swanton
64	Two well known bowlers who were killed in the world war II were	Ken Farmers and Hedley Verity
65	The term `Crowning' is used in	Checkers
66	The number of players in a baseball team is	Nine
67	Table Tennis Federation of India was established in	1937
68	Diana Eduljee is associated with	Cricket
69	A shuttle cock has how many feathers	Sixteen
70	`By God's Grace' was written by	Kapil Dev
71	The term `Faugio' is associated with	Motor Racing
72	The old name of table tennis was	Ping Pong
73	The duration of an international football match is	90 minutes
74	Saly Joseph excelled in	Volleyball
75	S.Prakash is associated with	Kho Kho
76	The first kho kho player to receive Arjuna Award was	Sudhir Bhaskar Rao
77	Stefi Graff is a citizen of	West Germany
78	`The Gold Hattrick' was written by	Balbir Singh
79	Mohammed Ali Clay was associated with	Boxing

80	Richard Hadlee was a cricketer from	New zealand
81	the first woman to win six gold medals in swimming in one Olympic (1998) was	Kristin Otto
82	The length of a Badminton racket is	26 inches
83	Golf originated in	Scotland
84	The award given to persons who excel in the field of coaching is	Dronacharya Award
85	The national sport of Japan is	Judo
86	The first Himalayan car rally was won by	Shekar Mehla of Kenya
87	Foot ball legend Pele belonged to	Brazil
88	Karate originated in	Japan
89	The word `karate' means	Bare hands
90	The term `Jockey' is associated with	Horse racing
91	The term `Niblick' is associated with	Golf
92	Holkar Trophy is associated with	Bridge
93	Gary Kasparov is associated with	Chess
94	The commonwealth games were earlier known as	British Empire Games
95	The commonwealth games are held once in	Four years
96	The 15th Commonwealth games were held at	Victoria (Canada)
97	The 1996 Olympic games were held at	Atlanta
98	The Swaythling cup is associated with	Table Tennis
99	The West Chester cup is associated with	Polo
100	Asian Games are held once in	Four years
101	The first Asian Games weld in 1951 at	New Delhi
102	In 1954,the Asian Games were held at	Manila
103	The 1928 Olympic games were held at	Amsterdam
104	The 2000 olympic games were held at	Sydney
105	The 2004 Olympic games were held at	Athens
106	The 1992 Olympic games were held at	Barcelona

107	The terms 'Mallet' is associated with	Polo
108	The terms 'Breast stroke' is associated with	Swimming
109	The term 'Tobogganing' is associated with	Skiing
110	'Davis Cup' is associated with	Tennis
111	World Cup 1996 for cricket was won by	Srilanka
112	The 1997 French Open women's title was won by	Iva Majoli
113	The 1997 French Open men's title was won by	Gustavo Kurten
114	The 1997 Wimbledon Open women's title was won by	Martina Hingis
115	The 1997 US Open men's title was won by	Petr Corda
116	The 1997 US Open women's title was won by	Martina Hingis
117	The 1998 Australian Open men's title was won by	Patrick Rafter
118	The 1998 Australian Open women's title was won by	Martina Hingis
119	The only cricketer to win four consecutive 'Man of the Match' awards is	Saurav Ganguly
120	The fastest century in one day international cricket was scored by	Shahid Afridi
121	The cricketer who has scored the highest number of centuries in one day cricket is	Sachin Tendulkar
122	Leander Paes won the Bronze medal at the Atlanta Olympics beating	Fernando Melizeni
123	In the Wills World Cup 1996 for cricket,the Man-of-the Series Award was won by	Sanath Jayasuriya
124	In the wills world Cup Cricket Tournament 1996,Srilanka won the final defeating	Australia
125	Evander Holyfield is associated with	Boxing
126	Michael Jordan is associated with	Basketball
127	In the 1997 Wimbledon championship men's final, Pete Sampras defeated	Cedric Pioline
128	In the 1997 Wimbledon championship women's final,Martina Hingis defeated	Jana Novotna
129	Martina Hingis,the famous tennis player,hails from	Switzerland
130	In the 1997 french open men's final,Gustavo Kuerten defeated	Serji Bruguera

131	Gustavo Kuerten hails from	Brazil
132	In the 1997 French Open women's final,Iva Majoli defeated	Martina Hingis
133	Iva Majoli hails from	Croatia
134	In the 1997 US open men's final,Patrick Rafter defeated	Greg Rusedki
135	Patrick Rafter hails from	Australia
136	In the 1997 US open women's final,Martina hingis defeated	Venus Williams
137	In the 1997 Australian open men's final,Pete Sampras defeated	Carlos Moya
138	In the 1997 Australian open women's final,Martina hingis defeated	Mary Pierce
139	The 1996 Olympics gold medal for Tennis(Men's) was won by	Andre Agassi
140	The 1996 Olympics gold medal for Tennis(Women's) was won by	Lindsay Davenport
141	Meherwan Daruwala is associated with	Squash
142	P.Ganesan is associated with	Kabaddi
143	P.Ganesan won the Arjuna award in the year	1995
144	Dhanraj pillay is associated with	Hockey
145	Dhanraj Pillay won the Arjuna Award in the year	1995
146	Batista is associated with	football
147	Batista hails from	Brazil
148	Andy Flower is associated with	Cricket
149	Andy Flower hails from	Zimbabwe
150	The first Winter Olympic Games were held at	Chamonix,France
151	The five rings of the Olympic symbol represent	Five continents
152	The Olympic flag was first raised in 1920 at the	Antwerp Games
153	The term `Deuce' is associated with	Lawn Tennis
154	The Ezar Cup is associated with	Polo
155	The Football World Cup 1930 was held at	Uruguay
156	The 1934 Football world Cup was held at	Italy
157	The Worldcup Football 1998 was held at	France
158	The Worldcup Football 1998 was won by	France

159	In the Worldcup Football 1998,the losing finalists were	Brazil
160	The Worldcup Football 2002 is scheduled to be held at	Japan & South Korea
161	The Worldcup Football 1986 was won by	Argentina
162	The Worldcup Football 1990 was won by	W.Germany
163	The Worldcup Football 1994 was won by	Brazil
164	In the Worldcup Football 1982,Italy won the final defeating	W.Germany
165	The Worldcup Football 1982 was held at	Spain
166	The Worldcup Football 1986 was held at	Mexico
167	The Worldcup Football 1990 was held at	Italy
168	The Worldcup Football 1994 was held at	USA
169	The terms `off-break' is used in	Cricket
170	The term `Rubber' is used in	Cricket
171	The term `Smash' is used in	Lawn Tennis
172	The term `Free kick' is used in	Football
173	The term `Castle' is used in	Chess
174	The term `Jab' is used in	Boxing
175	The term `Bunting' is used in	Baseball
176	The length of the Derby Course is	2.4 km
177	The weight of the Hockey ball is	5 3/4 ounces
178	The length of the Football field is	100 yds to 130 yds
179	The Cricket ground at Colombo is	Khettarama Stadium
180	The Arthur Walker trophy is associated with	Billiards
181	The 50th Common Wealth Games were held in Victoria (Canada) in the year	1994
182	In the 15th Common Wealth Games,the highest number of Gold medals were won by	Australia
183	The 2002 common Wealth Games are scheduled to be held at	Manchester
184	The 1990 common Wealth Games were held at	Auckland

185	The Worldcup Football 1998 was won by	France
186	The Worldcup Football 2002 was held at	South Korea & Japan
187	The Worldcup Football 2002 was won by	Brazil
188	The Worldcup Football 2006 was held at	Germany
189	The Worldcup Football 2006 was won by	Italy
190	The Worldcup Football 2010 was held at	South Africa
191	The Worldcup Football 2010 was won by	Spain
192	The 2008 olympic games were held at	Beijing
193	The First Cricket Worldcup was held in	England, 1975
194	The First Cricket Worldcup was won by	West Indies
195	The 2nd Cricket Worldcup was held in	England, 1979
196	The 2nd Cricket Worldcup was won by	West Indies
197	The 3rd Cricket Worldcup was held in	England, 1983
198	The 3rd Cricket Worldcup was won by	India
199	The 4th Cricket Worldcup was held in	India, 1987
200	The 4th Cricket Worldcup was won by	Australia
201	The 5th Cricket Worldcup was held in	Australia, 1992
202	The 5th Cricket Worldcup was won by	Pakistan
203	The 6th Cricket Worldcup was held in	Pakistan, 1996
204	The 6th Cricket Worldcup was won by	Sri Lanka
205	The 7th Cricket Worldcup was held in	England, 1999
206	The 7th Cricket Worldcup was won by	Australia
207	The 8th Cricket Worldcup was held in	South Africa,2003
208	The 8th Cricket Worldcup was won by	Australia
209	The 9th Cricket Worldcup was held in	West Indies,2007`
210	The 9th Cricket Worldcup was won by	Australia

## Our Universe

No.	Question	Answer
1.	Alcoholic drinks contain	Ethyl alcohol
2.	Jamini Roy is a famous	Painter
3.	Calcium is required by human body for	Strong teeth and for strong bone
4.	What is Muntz Metal?	An alloy containing copper and zinc in the proportion of 3:2
5.	The first man to reach south pole was	Amundson
6.	What is Interpol?	International Police
7.	In how many fields the nobel prize is awarded?	6
8.	Who is the writer of "Swami and Friends"	R.K.Narayan
9.	Which is the brightest star in our solar system?	Sirius
10.	The earths annual circuit round the sun covers a distance of	966 million km
11.	The speed per minute at which the earth revolves round the sun is	more than 1600 km
12.	Which gas is most predominant in the sun?	Hydrogen
13.	The time taken by the Uranus to revolve round the sun is approximately?	84 years
14.	Which is the brightest planet as seen from the earth?	Venus
15.	The distance between the earth and the sun is greatest during	Aphelion
16.	The earth rotates on its axis from	West to East
17.	On which of the following planets of solar system does the sun rise in the west and set in the east?	Venus
18.	The planet Pluto's orbit around the sun takes about	248 years
19.	The biggest star in our galaxy is	Sun
20.	The nearest star to earth (excepting the sun), in our galaxy is	Proxima centuri
21.	Who was the first to observe sun-spots?	Galileo
22.	What is the sun-spots?	These are cooler areas which move about



on the sun's surface and show up as dark spots.

- |     |  |  |
|-----|--|--|
| 23. | The only planet in the solar system which rotate on its axis from East to West is                        | Uranus   |
| 24. | What is the distance between the earth and the sun?  | $150 \times 10^8 \times 10^3 \times 10^3 \times 10^3 \times 10^3 \text{ km}$ |
| 25. | How many times is sun bigger in size than the earth?   | 109 times  |
| 26. | When was neutron,one of the particles of an atom,discovered?   | 1932   |
| 27. | The sun's heat and light energy reaches the earth by which mode of transmission?                         | Radiation  |
| 28. | How many days does the moon take to return to the same position among the constellations?                | 28 days  |
| 29. | Which planet takes the least time to complete one revolution around the sun?                             | Mercury  |
| 30. | Name two planets which appear as 'moving star' in the eastern sky and 'evening star' in the western sky. | Mercury and Venus  |
| 31. | Name two planets lying between the sun & the earth.  | Mercury and Venus  |
| 32. | Who was the first to determine that the day on the mars was,like ours,roughly 24 hours long?             | Giordano Bruno   |
| 33. | How long does a sun-ray take to travel from the sun to the earth?  | 500 seconds  |
| 34. | The comet named after Edmund Halley,reappears after the time interval of every                           | 76 years   |
| 35. | Titan,the largest moon in the solr system, is also the largest moon of                                   | Saturn   |
| 36. | Who was the first person to measure the size of another planet   | Christian Huygens  |
| 37. | Who was the first to speculate that Venus is completely covered with clouds                              | Christian Huygens  |
| 38. | The atoms are composed of how many kinds of elementary particles?  | Three  |
| 39. | What name is given to the path of the sun amongst the stars in our galaxy?                               | Ecliptic   |
| 40. | The visible part of the sun is called  | Ionosphere   |

- |     |   |  |
|-----|---|--|
| 41. | Which of the planets reflects back to space the highest percentage of light it receives from the sun than any other planet of the solar system? | Venus  |
| 42. | Who wrote the book "Harmonies of the World"?  | Johannes Kepler                              |
| 43. | What will happen if the Earth were to stop its rotatory motion on its axis?   | There will be no day and night as at present |
| 44. | In which part of the solar system is the sun located?   | Approx. at the centre of the system          |
| 45. | Which of the planets turns on its axis in 24 hours and 37 minutes?  | Mars   |
| 46. | Who was the first to measure the distance round the earth?  | Eratosthenes                                 |
| 47. | What percentage of the irregular surface of the Earth is covered with water?  | 80 %   |
| 48. | Which planet was for the first time observed in 1930?   | Pluto  |
| 49. | Which of planets has almost the same mass,size and density as the Earth?  | Venus  |
| 50. | The temperature at the surface of the sun and its centre is respectively,about  | 6000 k                                       |

## **Wonders of the World**

1. Pyramids of Egypt
2. Great Wall of China
3. Colosseum of Rome (Italy)
4. Leaning Tower of Pisa (Italy)
5. Cata-combs of Alexandria
6. The Taj Mahal at Agra (India)
7. Angkor Vat temple in Kampuchia

## Currencies of the World

No.	Country	Currency
01	Afghanistan	Afgani
02	Argentina	Peso
03	Australia	Australian Dollar
04	Austria	Schiling
05	Bangladesh	Taka
06	Belgium	Belgian Franc
07	Bhutan	Ngultrum
08	Brazil	Cruzeir
09	Bulgaria	Levi
10	Burma	Kyat
11	Canada	Canadian Dollar
12	Sri Lanka	Sri Lankan Rupee
13	Taiwan	Taiwan Dollar
14	China	Yuan
15	Chile	Peso
16	Czechoslovakia	Koruna
17	Denmark	Krone
18	Egypt	Egyptian Pound
19	Ethiopia	Birr
20	Finland	Markka
21	France	French Franc
22	Germany	Deutsche Mark (DM)
23	Ghana	Cedi
24	Hong Kong	Hong Kong Dollar
25	Hungary	Florint

26	India	Rupee
27	Indonesia	Rupiah
28	Iran	Iranian Rial
29	Iraq	Iraqi Dinar
30	Israel	Shekel
31	Italy	Lira
32	Japan	Yen
33	Kampuchia or Cambodia	Riel
34	Kazakhstan	Tenge
35	North Korea	Won
36	South Korea	Won
37	Kuwait	Kuwait Dinar
38	Kyrgyzstan	Som
39	Laos	Kip
40	Malaysia	Malaysian Dollar
41	Maldives	Rufiyaa
42	Mauritius	Mauritian Rupee
43	Mexico	Mexican Peso
44	Morocco	Dirham
45	Nepal	Nepalese Rupee
46	Netherlands	Dutch Guilder
47	New Zealand	New Zealand Dollar
48	Nigeria	Naira
49	Norway	Norwegian Krone
50	Oman	Omani Rial
51	Pakistan	Pakistani Rupee
52	Panama	Balbia
53	Philippines	Philippine Peso

54	Poland	Zloty
55	Portugal	Escudo
56	Romania	Leu
57	Russia	Rouble
58	Saudi Arabia	Saudi arabian Riyal
59	Singapore	Singapore Dollar
60	South Africa	Rand
61	Spain	Peseta
62	Sweden	Swedish Krone
63	Switzerland	Swiss Franc
64	Thailand	Baht
65	Turkey	Turkish Lira
66	Turkmenistan	Turkmenistan Rouble
67	Ukraine	Ukraine Rouble
68	UAE	UAE Dirham
69	United Kingdom	Pound,Sterling
70	United States of america	US Dollar
71	Venezuela	Boliver
72	Vietnam	Dong
73	Zambia	Kwacha

## Oceans, Seas, Rivers & Mountains

No. Ocean Area 01 Pacific 64186300 Sq. m. 02 Atlantic 33420000 Sq.m. 03 Indian 28350500 Sq.m. 04 Arctic 5105700 Sq.m. No. SeaArea 01 South China Sea 1148500 Sq.m. 02 Carribean Sea 971400 Sq.m. 03 Mediterranean Sea 969100 Sq.m. No. RiverLength 01 Nile (Africa) 4145 miles 02 [Amazon](#) (Brazil) 4000 miles 03 Yangtze-Kiang (China) 3400 miles 04 Congo (Africa) 2718 miles 05 Amur (U.S.S.R.) 2700 miles 06 Niger (Africa) 2600 miles

No.	Mountain	Country	h-Metres	h-Feet
01	Everest	Nepal/Tibet	8848	29028
02	Godwin Austen	India	8611	28250
03	Kanchenjunga	India/Nepal	8600	28215
04	Malaku	Nepal/Tibet	8481	27825
05	Dhawalgiri	Nepal	8172	26988
06	Nanga Parbat	India	8126	26816
07	Annapurna	Nepal	8078	26504
08	Nanda Devi	India	7817	25645
09	Rakaposhi	India	7780	25550
10	Mt.Kamet	India	7756	25447
11	Huascaran	Peru	6768	22205
12	Kailas	Tibet	6714	22028
13	Sajama	Bolivia	6542	21463
14	Mt.Mckinley	Alaska (USA)	6194	20320
15	Kilimanjaro	Tanzania	5888	19317
16	Mt.Blanc	France (Alps)	4810	15781

## World Newspapers

No.	Name of Paper	Country	City
01	Pakistan Times	Pakistan	Karachi
02	Morning News	Pakistan	Karachi
03	Dawn	Pakistan	Karachi
04	The Sunday Times	U.K.	London
05	Guardian	U.K.	London
06	Sunday Telegraph	U.K.	London
07	The Economist	U.K.	London
08	New Statesman	U.K.	London
09	Le Monde	France	Paris
10	New York Times	USA	New York
11	Washington Post	USA	Washington
12	Izvestia	Russia	Moscow
13	Pravda	Russia	Moscow
14	Red Flag	China	Beijing
15	People's Daily	China	Beijing
16	Al Ahram	Egypt	Cairo
17	Nhan Dan	Vietnam	Hanoi
18	Asahi Shimbun	Japan	Tokyo
19	Straights Times	Singapore	Singapore
20	The Motherland	Nepal	Kathmandu
21	Statesman	Sri Lanka	Colombo
22	Bangladesh Times	Bangladesh	Dhaka
23	Al Massa	Lebanan	Beirut
24	Chasum Ilbo	South Korea	Seoul
25	China Times	Taiwan	Taipeh



26	Le Europa	Italy	Rome
27	La Republica	Italy	Rome
28	El Pais	Spain	Madrid

## General knowledge India

No.	Question	Answer
01	The first multipurpose project in India is	Damodar Valley
02	The place in North East India which receives the highest annual rainfall is	Chirrapunji
03	The largest Indian river flowing into the Arabian Sea is	Narmada
04	Indian broadcasting was nationalised in	1930
05	The Indian forests are divided into how many regions	Eight
06	The place where Indian Standard time coincides with local time is	Allahabad
07	The industry for which Vishakapatnam is famous for is	Ship Building
08	The state which is the largest producer of iron ore in India is	Karnataka
09	The longest railway platform in India measuring 836.63 mts. is located at	Kharagpur
10	The Indian state which is largest exporter of cashewnut is	Kerala
11	The main occupation of Indians is	Agriculture
12	Nagarjuna Sagar dam is built across the River	Krishna
13	Madras state was renamed as Tamilnadu in the year	1969
14	The main industry of Assam is	Tea Industry
15	The Indian state which has maximum number of districts is	Uttar pradesh
16	The length of Indian coastline is	7500 kms
17	The longest day in India is	21st June
18	The biggest museum in india is	Indian Museum,Calcutta
19	The source of river Indus is	Mount Kailash,Tibet
20	Kodaikanal, a famous holiday resort is located in	Tamilnadu
21	Bangalore city is also called the	Garden city
22	The only place in India where rock salt is found is in	Mandi,Himachal Pradesh
23	The Gandhi Sagar dam is constructed across the river	Chambal
24	The river that passes through the Thar desert is	Sindhu

25	Nagoor,a place in Tamilnadu,is famous for	Famous muslim shrine
26	The Hindustan Ship Yard is located at	Vishakapatnam
27	The Indian state that tops in the production of cocoa is	Kerala
28	The first major steel plant established in India was	Tata Iron & Steel Co,Jamshedpur
29	Crude oil is found in south Gujarat at	Ankleshwar
30	The first oil well drilled in India was at	Naharpong in Assam
31	Calcutta is situated on the banks of river	Hoogli
32	The largest opium growing state in India is	Uttar Pradesh
33	Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd,India's largest manufacturer of penicillin is located at	Pimpri
34	The former name of Arunachal Pradesh was	NEFA
35	Khajuraho temples are located at	Chattarput,M.P.
36	The Indian freedom fighter who turned into a famous spiritualist was	Aurobindo Ghosh
37	The king who installed a `Chain of Justice' outside his place was	Jehangir
38	The name of the mines in Rajasthas from where we get zinc is	Zawar
39	Singereni in Andhra Pradesh is famous for	Coal Mines
40	Amaravathi is located on the bank of river	Krishna
41	Agra was founded in the year	1506
42	Ajmer was founded by	Raja Ajay Dev Chauhan
43	The only Indian state where we find nickel ore is	Orissa
44	The Udaygiri caves were built by	Karavelu
45	The strength of Lok Sabha is	545 members
46	The National Museum of Natural History is located at	New Delhi
47	The Indian Prime Minister who nationalised the banks was	Mrs.Indira Gandhi
48	The birth date of Jawaharlal Nehru is	14th November 1889
49	The Environment protection Act came into effect in	1986
50	The capital city founded on the bank of river Gomathi is	Lucknow

51	The president of the Indian National congress at its first session held in 1885 was	Womesh Chandra Banerji
52	Bhaskara-II was a famous	Mathematician
53	The Bhopal Gas leak incident occurred in	December 1984
54	The city that is called the city of golden Temple is	Amritsar
55	Traveller Hawkins visited India in the year	1608 AD
56	Mahadevi Varma won the Jnanpith for her book titled	Yama
57	The headquarters of Oil and Natural Gas Commission is located at	Dehradun
58	Satyartha Prakash'was written by	Swami Dayananda Saraswati
59	Emperor Akbar's Revenue Minister was	Todarmal
60	The elder brother of famous sitarist Ravishankar is	Uday Shankar,dancer
61	The first batsman to score a century in each of his first three tests is	Mohammed Azharuddin
62	The 10th Vice-President of India is	Krishan Kant
63	The first Chief of Indian Navy was	R.D.Katari
64	The longest road in India is the	Grand Trunk Road
65	The first modern college in India is the	Fort William college,Calcutta
66	The first purely Indian bank is the	Punjab National Bank
67	Lalit Kala Academy of India is situated at	New Delhi
68	The first Indian to win Oscar Award is	Bhanu Athaiya
69	Goa was liberated in the year	1961
70	Sharda Act was enacted to prevent	Child Marriage
71	National Science day is celebrated on	28th February
72	Jamnalal Bajaj Awards are given for	Constructive work
73	Rabindranath Tagore give up his knighthood because of the tragic incident of	Jallianwala Bagh massacre
74	The Chief minister of a state who was awarded the Bharat Ratna was	M.G.Ramachandran
75	Baba Amte's real name is	Muralidhar Devidas Amte
76	Mihirsen,India's famous long distance swimmer,was by profession	An Advocate

77	Dr.Pramod Karan Sethi is famous for the	Jaipur foot
78	Rabindranath Tagore was born at	Jorasanko,Calcutta
79	The name of the school started by Rabindranath Tagore was	Shanti Niketan
80	Neyveli Thermal Power Station is located in	Tamil Nadu
81	The earlier name of Assam was	Kamrup
82	Sir C.V.Raman was born at	Thirunavannikaval
83	The Indian Academy of Science was founded by	C.V.Raman
84	The Indian Academy of Science is located at	Bangalore
85	All India Institute of Medical Science is located at	New Delhi
86	Atomic Energy Commission is located at	Mumbai
87	Cement Research Institute of India is located at	Balabhgarh
88	Space Applications Centre is located at	Ahmedabad
89	Jog falls is located at	Jog,Karnataka
90	Jawaharlal Nehru died in the year	1964
91	Aurangzeb died in the year	1707
92	Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan died in the year	Frontier Gandhi
93	Rabindranath Tagore died in the year	1941
94	Mahatma Gandhi died in the year	1948
95	Zakir Hussein died in the year	1969
96	Raja Ram Mohan Roy died in the year	1833
97	India's second Prime Minister was	Gulzarilal Nanda
98	The first Law Minister of Independent India was	Dr.B.R.Ambedkar
99	Jawaharlal Nehru's biography "With No Regrets"was written by	Krishan Hathisingh
100	India's first test tube baby was born in	June 1986
101	The leader whose death was announced in the Lok Sabha before his actual death was	Jayaprakash Narayan
102	The Gold mines located in Andhra Pradesh are	Ramagiri Gold Fields,Ananthapur district

103	The Homeguards were organised in India in the year	1962
104	Ankleshwar oil field is located in	Gujarat
105	The Indian Prime Minister who wrote the book `Nature Cure'was	Morarji Desai
106	Burma seperated from India in the year	1937
107	`Sea Bird'project is located at	Karwar
108	The name of the artificial harbour along the west coast India is	Kandla
109	The first medical college was established in India at	Calcutta
110	Jawaharlal Nehru's mother's name was	Swaroop Rani
111	The pin code was introduced in India in the year	1972
112	In his last years,Ambedkar converted to	Buddhism
113	Gandhiji's mother's name was	Putli Bai
114	Gandhiji was born on	2nd October 1869
115	Khushwant Singh is a famous	Journalist
116	The film actor who became the chiefminister of Andhra Pradesh was	N.T.Rama Rao
117	Satyajit Ray was awarded the Bharat Ratna in the year	1992
118	Central Research Institute is located at	Kasauli
119	The movie Raja Harishchandra was released in the year	1913
120	The first Indian Prime Minister to resign from office was	Morarji Desai
121	The largest railway bridge in India is	Sone Bridge,Bihar
122	The largest dome in India is the	Gol Gumbaz,Bijapur
123	Air Force Day is celebrated on	October 8
124	Indian Military Academy is located at	Dehradun
125	The postal department was set up in India in the year	1854
126	Army day is celebrated on	21st Century
127	Navy day is celebrated on	4th December
128	The national flower of India is	Lotus
129	NABARD was established in the year	1982
130	Koradi Thermal power Station is located at	Maharashtra

131	PTI stands for	Press Trust of India
132	Rail Coach Factory is located at	Kapurthala
133	The construction of India was adopted on	26-11-1949
134	The construction of India became effective on	26-1-1950
135	`Mrinalini'was written by	Bankim chandra Chatterjee
136	Bhagat Singh was hanged in the year	1931
137	Sheik Abdulla was popularly known as	Sher-e-Kashmir
138	Goa attained statehood on	30 May 1987
139	Gujarat attained statehood on	1 May 1960
140	Haryana attained statehood on	1 November 1966
141	The capital of Haryana is	Chandigarh
142	Panipat is popularly known as	Weaver City
143	Dal lake is located in	Jammu and Kashmir
144	Madhya Pradesh attained statehood on	November 1956
145	The capital of Madhya Pradesh is	Bhopal
146	Manipur attained statehood on	21st January 1972
147	The capital of Manipur is	Imphal
148	Meghalaya attained statehood on	21st January 1972
149	The capital of Meghalaya is	Shillong
150	Meghalaya state was carved out of	Assam
151	Mizoram attained statehood on	20th February 1987
152	The capital of Mizoram is	Aizawl
153	Before attaining statehood,Mizoram was one of the districts of	Assam
154	Nagaland attained statehood on	1 December 1963
155	The capital of Nagaland is	Kohima
156	Orissa was earlier known as	Kalinga
157	The capital of Orissa is	Bhubaneshwar
158	The main airport of Orissa is located at	Bhubaneshwar

159	Rajasthan attained statehood in the year	1958
160	The capital of Rajasthan is	Jaipur
161	The capital of Sikkim is	Gangtok
162	India's highest peak is the	Kanchenjunga
163	Mount Abu, a famous hill station is located at	Rajasthan
164	The main attraction of Mount Abu are the	Dilwara Jain Temples
165	Hussain Sagar Lake is located at	Hyderabad
166	The Samadhi of Gandhiji is known as	Rajghat
167	The Samadhi of Gandhiji is located on the bank of river	Yamuna
168	The largest state in India is	Madhya Pradesh
169	The highest TV tower in India is located at	New Delhi
170	The most literate state in India is	Kerala
171	Golconda Fort is located near	Hyderabad
172	Gateway of India is located at	Mumbai
173	Buland Darwaza is located at	Fatehpur Sikri
174	Badrinath is located at	Uttar Pradesh
175	Elephanta Caves are located on an island near	Mumbai
176	Ajanta caves are located near	Aurangabad
177	Humayu's tomb is located at	New Delhi
178	Jantar Mantar is located in	New Delhi
179	Jantar Mantar is an	Observatory
180	Jantar Mantar was constructed by	Maharaja Jai Singh II
181	Mughal Gardens is located at	New Delhi
182	Qutb-Minar is located at	New Delhi
183	Rashtrapati Bhawan was built by	Edwin Lutyens
184	The samadhi of Indira Gandhi is known as	Shakti Sthal
185	The Tower of Victory is located at	Chittoor
186	Victoria Memorial is located at	Calcutta



187	The highest airfield of India is the	Chushul airfield,Ladakh
188	The largest lake of India is the	Wular lake,Kashmir
189	The largest Zoo of India is the	Zoological Garden,Calcutta
190	The most populated state of India is	Uttar Pradesh
191	Central Bureau of Investigation was formed in	1963
192	BSF stands for	Border Security Force
193	ITBP stands for	Indo-Tibetan Border Police
194	The actual name of Mother Teresa was	Agnes Gonxha Bejaxhiu
195	A programme launched by Chandrababu Naidu,Chief minister of Andhra Pradesh, to clean the city of Hyderabad was named	Janmabhoomi
196	Vajpayee Government was sworn in for the second time on	19 march, 1998
197	Miss World 1997 contest was held at	Seychelles
198	The Miss World 1997 title was won by	Diana Hayden
199	The Miss World 1996 Contest was held at	Bangalore
200	Mother Teresa died on	5 September 1997
201	Bill Gates visited India in	March 1997
202	The Carnatic volalist who won the Bharat Ratna Award was	M.S.Subbulakshmi
203	The first musician to get the Bharat Ratna	M.S.Subbulakshmi
204	Kerala attained statehood on	1st November 1956
205	Sahar airport is located at	Mumbai
206	Dum Dum airport is located at	Calcutta
207	The first ever railway train travelled from	Bombay-Thane
208	The only Indian metro railway system is at	Calcutta
209	Air India was formed in	1946
210	Indian Airlines was formed in	1953
211	Indira Gandhi airport is located at	Delhi
212	Meenambakkam airport is located at	Chennai
213	The Export-Import Bank of India is also known as	EXIM Bank

214	The Navy Academy is located at	Cochin
215	In 1983,Bharat Ratna was posthumously awarded to	Acharya Vinoba Bhave
216	Mrs.Indira Gandhi was assassinated on	31-10-1984
217	Mr.Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated on	21-5-1991
218	The strength of Rajya Sabha is	250
219	The supreme commander of Army,Navy and Airforce is the	President
220	The Chairman of the Lok Sabha is the	Speaker
221	Pong dam is located in	Punjab
222	The fastest train in India is the	Shatabdi Express
223	The oldest refinery in India is the	Digboi refinery
224	The largest refinery of India is the	IOC Refinery at Koyah,Gujarat
225	The Bhakra dam is built across the River	Sutlej
226	The first General Elections were held in India in the year	1952
227	The first engineering college established in India is the	Thompson college,Roorkee
228	The first library established in India is the	William Carey library,Serampore
229	The oldest english daily newspaper of India is	The Times of India
230	The largest post office in India is the	GPO,Mumbai
231	The largest prison in India is the	Tihar Central Jail,Delhi
232	The first Indian state formed on linguistic basis after Independence was	Andhra Pradesh
233	The largest cave temple in India is	Ellora
234	The only diamond producing area in India is	Panna Diamond Belt,M.P.
235	The biggest public sector bank in India is the	State Bank of India
236	Reserve Bank of India was established in	1935
237	The oldest tree in India is the	Monus Serrata at Joshimutt
238	The first Education Minister of free India was	Maulana Abul Kalam Azad
239	Who is known as the Father of Indian industry	Jamshedji Tata

240 Gandhiji was assassinated by

Nathuram Godse

241 VDIS was launched on

July 1, 1997

## Volcanoes, Islands, Waterfalls & Desserts

No.	Volcanoe	Height
01	Gaullatiri (Chile)	19882 ft.
02	Laskar (Chile)	19652 ft.
03	Cotopaxi (Ecuador)	19347 ft.
04	Tupungatito (Chile)	18504 ft.
05	Popocatepeti (Mexico)	17887 ft.
06	Sangay (Ecuador)	17159 ft.

No.	Waterfall	Feet
01	Angel (Venezuela)	2648
02	Ribbon(California,USA)	1612
03	King George VI(Guyana)	1600
04	Upper Yosemite (California)	1430
05	Gavarnie (Pyrenees,France)	1385
06	Tugela(Natal,S.Africa)	1350

No.	Desert	sq.miles
01	Sahara (N.Africa)	3500000
02	Libya (N.Africa)	650000
03	Great Australian (W.Australia)	600000
04	Arabian (Arabia)	500000
05	Gobi (Mongolia)	400000
06	Kalahari (Botswana)	200000

No.	Island	Ocean	sq.miles
01	Greenland	Arctic	840000
02	New Guinea	Pacific	347450

03	Borneo	Pacific	307000
04	Baffin	Arctic	236000
05	Madagaskar	Indian	227737
06	Sumatra	Indian	161102

## Sports And Personalities

No.	Personality	Associated With
1.	Anand Amritraj	Tennis (lawn)
2.	Ajit Wadekar	Cricket
3.	Ashok Mankad	Cricket
4.	Bhim Singh	Wrestling
5.	Bhuvaneshwari Kumari	Shooting
6.	Bill Lawry	Cricket
7.	Bishamber Singh	Wrestling
8.	Bishen Singh Bedi	Cricket
9.	Borde,Chandu	Cricket
10.	Cassius Clay	Boxing (Heavy-weight)
11.	Chandgi Ram	Wrestling
12.	Chandrasekhar,B.S.	Cricket
13.	Chaudhary, S.	Shooting
14.	Chuni Goswami	Football
15.	Cowdrey	Cricket
16.	Dara Singh	Wrestling
17.	Dawn Frazer	Swimming
18.	Dhyan Chand	Hockey
19.	Dilip Sardesai	Cricket
20.	Dipu Ghosh	Badminton
21.	Don Bradman	Cricket
22.	Emarson,Roy	Lawn Tennis
23.	Fairfax,John	Rowing
24.	Foxbury Dick	High Jump
25.	Frank Warrell	Cricket

26.	Gabriel,John	Weighlifting
27.	Gavaskar, S.	Cricket
28.	Geeta Nadkarni	Table Tennis
29.	Griffith	Cricket
30.	Gurbux Singh	Hockey
31.	Gurdial Singh	Basketball
32.	Illingworth	Cricket
33.	Imran Khan	Cricket
34.	Jackie Stewart	Car Race
35.	Jaideep Mukherjee	Lawn Tennis
36.	Jamie Paulson	Badminton
37.	Joe Frazier	Boxing
38.	Joginder Singh	Shot put
39.	Kanhai	Cricket
40.	Karnehm,Jack	Billiards
41.	Karni Singh,Maharaja	Rifle-shooting
42.	Kohli,M.S.	Mountaineering
43.	Krishnan,Ramanathan	Lawn Tennis
44.	Kapil Dev	Cricket
45.	Syed Kirmani	Cricket
46.	Rod Laver	Lawn Tennis
47.	Maharaja of Jaipur	Polo
48.	Maharaja of Bikaner	Rifle Shooting
49.	Mahender Lal	Hockey
50.	Mihir Sen	Ocean Swimming
51.	Milkha Singh	Athletics
52.	Mustaq Ali	Cricket
53.	Nawab of Pataudi	Cricket

54.	C.K.Nayudu	Cricket
55.	Neela Kulkarni	Hockey
56.	Parveen Kumar	Athletics
57.	Prema Saini	Hockey
58.	Premjit Lall	Lawn Tennis
59.	Prithipal Singh	Hockey
60.	Prakash Padukone	Bad Minton
61.	Rima Dutta	Aquatics
62.	Ruma Mukherjee	Table Tennis
63.	Sachin Tendulkar	Cricket
64.	G.Sobers	Cricket
65.	Ted Denter	Cricket
66.	Tenzing Norgay	Mountaineering
67.	Uday Chand	Wrestling
68.	Sudesh Kumar	Wrestling
69.	P.R.Umrigar	Cricket
70.	Vijat Amritraj	Lawn Tennis
71.	Viswanath	Cricket
72.	Wilson Jones	Billiards
73.	Yusuf Khan	Football
74.	Edgar Herrman	Car Race



## World Info (A)

No.	Question	Answer
01	The first Prime minister of Bangladesh was	Mujibur Rehman
02	The longest river in the world is the	Nile
03	The longest highway in the world is the	Trans-Canada
04	The longest highway in the world has a length of	about 8000 km
05	The highest mountain in the world is the	Everest
06	The country that accounts for nearly one third of the total teak production of the world is	Myanmar
07	The biggest desert in the world is the	Sahara desert
08	The largest coffee growing country in the world is	Brazil
09	The country also known as "country of Copper" is	Zambia
10	The name given to the border which separates Pakistan and Afghanistan is	Durand line
11	The river Volga flows out into the	Caspian sea
12	The coldest place on the earth is	Verkoyansk in Siberia
13	The country which ranks second in terms of land area is	Canada
14	The largest Island in the Mediterranean sea is	Sicily
15	The river Jordan flows out into the	Dead sea
16	The biggest delta in the world is the	Sunderbans
17	The capital city that stands on the river Danube is	Belgrade
18	The Japanese call their country as	Nippon
19	The length of the English channel is	564 kilometres
20	The world's oldest known city is	Damascus
21	The city which is also known as the City of Canals is	Venice
22	The country in which river Wangchu flows is	Myanmar
23	The biggest island of the world is	Greenland
24	The city which is the biggest centre for manufacture of automobiles in the world is	Detroit, USA

25	The country which is the largest producer of manganese in the world is	USA
26	The country which is the largest producer of rubber in the world is	Malaysia
27	The country which is the largest producer of tin in the world is	Malaysia
28	The river which carries maximum quantity of water into the sea is the	Mississippi
29	The city which was once called the `Forbidden City' was	Peking
30	The country called the Land of Rising Sun is	Japan
31	Mount Everest was named after	Sir George Everest
32	The volcano Vesuvius is located in	Italy
33	The country known as the Sugar Bowl of the world is	Cuba
34	The length of the Suez Canal is	162.5 kilometres
35	The lowest point on earth is	The coastal area of Dead sea
36	The Gurkhas are the original inhabitants of	Nepal
37	The largest ocean of the world is the	Pacific ocean
38	The largest bell in the world is the	Tsar Kolkol at Kremlin, Moscow
39	The biggest stadium in the world is the	Strahov Stadium, Prague
40	The world's largest diamond producing country is	South Africa
41	Australia was discovered by	James Cook
42	The first Governor General of Pakistan is	Mohammed Ali Jinnah
43	Dublin is situated at the mouth of river	Liffey
44	The earlier name of New York city was	New Amsterdam
45	The Eiffel tower was built by	Alexander Eiffel
46	The Red Cross was founded by	Jean Henri Durant
47	The country which has the greatest population density is	Monaco
48	The national flower of Britain is	Rose
49	Niagara Falls was discovered by	Louis Hennepin

50	The national flower of Italy is	Lily
51	The national flower of China is	Narcissus
52	The permanent secretariat of the SAARC is located at	Kathmandu
53	The gateway to the Gulf of Iran is	Strait of Hormuz
54	The first Industrial Revolution took place in	England
55	World Environment Day is observed on	5th June
56	The first Republican President of America was	Abraham Lincoln
57	The country famous for Samba dance is	Brazil
58	The name of Alexander's horse was	Beucephalus
59	Singapore was founded by	Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles
60	The famous British one-eyed Admiral was	Nelson
61	The earlier name of Srilanka was	Ceylon
62	The UNO was formed in the year	1945
63	UNO stands for	United Nations Organisation
64	The independence day of South Korea is celebrated on	15th August
65	'Last Judgement' was the first painting of an Italian painter named	Michelangelo
66	'Paradise Regained' was written by	John Milton
67	The first President of Egypt was	Mohammed Nequib
68	The first man to reach North Pole was	Rear Peary
69	The most famous painting of Pablo Picasso was	Guermica
70	The primary producer of newsprint in the world is	Canada
71	The first explorer to reach the South Pole was	Cap. Ronald Amundson
72	The person who is called the father of modern Italy is	G. Garibaldi
73	World literacy day is celebrated on	8th September
74	The founder of modern Germany is	Bismarck
75	The country known as the land of the midnight sun is	Norway
76	The place known as the Roof of the world is	Tibet

77	The founder of the Chinese Republic was	San Yat Sen
78	The first Pakistani to receive the Nobel Prize was	Abdul Salam
79	The first woman Prime Minister of Britain was	Margaret Thatcher
80	The first Secretary General of the UNO was	Trygve Lie
81	The sculptor of the statue of Liberty was	Federick Auguste Bartholdi
82	The port of Baku is situated in	Azerbaijan
83	John F.Kennedy was assassinated by	Lee Harvey Oswald
84	The largest river in France is	Loire
85	The Queen of England who married her brother-in-law was	Catherine of Aragon
86	The first negro to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize was	Ralph Johnson Bunche
87	The first British University to admit women for degree courses was	London University
88	The principal export of Jamaica is	Sugar
89	New York is popularly known as the city of	Skyscrapers
90	Madagascar is popularly known as the Island of	Cloves
91	The country known as the Land of White Elephant is	Thailand
92	The country known as the Land of Morning Calm is	Korea
93	The country known as the Land of Thunderbolts is	Bhutan
94	The highest waterfalls in the world is the	Salto Angel Falls,Venezuela
95	The largest library in the world is the	United States Library of Congress,Washington DC
96	The largest museum in the world is the	American Museum of Natural History
97	The lowest mountain range in the world is the	Patkai Bora
98	The country known as the Land of Cakes is	Scotland
99	The place known as the Garden of England is	Kent
100	The tallest tower in the world is the	C.N.Tower,Toronto,Canada
101	The country famous for its fish catch is	Japan
102	The old name of Taiwan was	Formosa

103	Montreal is situated on the bank of river	Ottawa
104	The city of Bonn is situated in	Germany
105	The literal meaning of Renaissance is	Revival
106	Julius Caesar was killed by	Brutus
107	The title of Desert Fox was given to	Field Marshal Erwin Rommel
108	The largest airport in the world is the	King Khalid Int.Airport,Saudi Arabia
109	The city in Russia which faced an earthquake in the year 1998 was	Armenia
110	The largest bay in the world is	Hudson Bay,Canada
111	The largest church in the world is	Basilica of St.Peter,Vatican City,Rome
112	The largest peninsula in the world is	Arabia
113	The largest gulf in the world is	Gulf of Mexico
114	The tallest statue in the world is the	Motherland,Volgograd Russia
115	The largest railway tunnel in the world is the	Oshimzu Tunnel,Japan
116	The world's loneliest island is the	Tristan da cunda
117	The word `Quiz'was coined by	Jim Daly Irishman
118	The original meaning of `Quiz'was	Trick
119	The busiest shopping centre of London is	Oxford Street
120	The residence of the Queen in London is	Buckingham Palace
121	Adolf Hitler was born in	Austria
122	The country whose National Anthem has only music but no words is	Bahrain
123	The largest cinema in the world is the	Fox theatre,Detroit,USA
124	The country where there are no Cinema theatres is	Saudi arabia
125	The world's tallest office building is the	Sears Tower,Chicago
126	In the year 1811,Paraguay became independent from	Spain
127	The cross word puzzle was invented by	Arthur Wynney
128	The city which was the capital of the ancient Persian Empire was	Persepolis

129	WHO stands for	World Health Organisation
130	WHO is located at	Geneva
131	FAO stands for	Food and Agriculture Organisation
132	FAO is located at	Rome and London
133	UNIDO stands for	United Nations Industrial Development Organisation
134	UNIDO is located at	Vienna
135	WMO stands for	World Meteorological Organisation
136	WMO is located at	Geneva
137	International Civil Aviation Organisation is located at	Montreal
138	The Angel Falls is located in	Venezuela
139	The Victoria Falls is located in	Rhodesia
140	Ice Cream was discovered by	Gerald Tisyum
141	The number regarded as lucky number in Italy is	Thirteen
142	Napoleon suffered from alurophobia which means	Fear of cats
143	The aeroplanes was used in war for the first time by	Italians(14 Oct.1911)
144	Slavery in America was abolished by	Abraham Lincoln
145	The Headquarters of textile manufacturing in England is	Manchester
146	The famous Island located at the mouth of the Hudson river is	Manhattan
147	The founder of plastic industry was	Leo Hendrik Bakeland
148	The country where military service is compulsory for women is	Israel
149	The country which has more than 10,000 golf courses is	USA
150	The famous painting `Mona Lisa'is displayed at	Louvre museum,Paris
151	The earlier name for tomato was	Love apple
152	The first President of USA was	George Washington
153	The famous words `Veni Vidi Vici'were said by	Julius Caesar
154	The practice of sterilization of surgical instruments was	Joseph Lister

introduced by

- |     |  |                                     |
|-----|--|-------------------------------------|
| 155 | The number of countries which participated in the first Olympic Games held at Athens was | Nine                                |
| 156 | Mercury is also known as   | Quick Silver                        |
| 157 | Disneyland is located in   | California,USA                      |
| 158 | The country which built the first powerful long range rockets is                         | Germany                             |
| 159 | Sewing Machine was invented by   | Isaac M.Singer                      |
| 160 | Adding Machine was invented by   | Aldrin                              |
| 161 | The national emblem of Spain is  | Eagle                               |
| 162 | Archimedes was born in   | Sicily                              |
| 163 | The total area of Vatican city is  | 0.272 Sq.kms                        |
| 164 | The largest temple in the world is   | Angkorwat in Kampuchea              |
| 165 | The largest dome in the world is   | Louisiana Superdome,New Orleans,USA |
| 166 | The largest strait in the world is   | Tartar Strait                       |
| 167 | The Mohenjodaro ruins are found in   | Larkand District of Sind,Pakistan   |
| 168 | The largest city of Africa is  | Cairo                               |
| 169 | The founder of KODAK Company was   | Eastman                             |
| 170 | The Cape of Good Hope is located in  | South Africa                        |
| 171 | The Heathrow Airport is located in   | London                              |
| 172 | The neon lamp was invented by  | Georges Claude                      |
| 173 | The last letter of the Greek alphabet is   | Omega                               |
| 174 | The place known as the land of Lincoln is  | Illinois                            |
| 175 | The US state Utah is also known as   | Beehive state                       |
| 176 | The Kalahari desert is located in  | Africa                              |
| 177 | The Patagonian desert is located in  | Argentina                           |
| 178 | The person known as the father of aeronautics is   | Sir George Cayley                   |
| 179 | The most densely populated Island in the world is  | Honshu                              |

180	The two nations Haiti and the Dominion Republic together form the Island of	Hisponiola
181	The largest auto producer in the USA is	General Motors
182	The largest auto producing nation is	Japan
183	The famous General Motors company was founded by	William Durant
184	The country that brings out the FIAT is	Italy
185	The first actor to win an Oscar was	Emil Jannings
186	The first animated colour cartoon of full feature length was	Snow White and Seven Dwarfs
187	The first demonstration of a motion picture was held at	Paris
188	The first country to issue stamps was	Britain
189	The actor who is considered as the biggest cowboy star of the silent movies is	Tom Mix
190	The Pentagon is located at	Washington DC
191	The world's largest car manufacturing company is	General Motors,USA
192	The world's biggest manufacturer of bicycles is	Hero cycles,Ludhiana
193	The world's oldest underground railway is at	London
194	The White House was painted white to	Hide fire damage
195	The largest oil producing nation in Africa is	Nigeria
196	The longest river in Russia is	Oblrtysh
197	The first Emperor of Germany was	Wilhelm
198	The last French Monarch was	Louis Napoleon III
199	"History is Bunk"was said by	Henry Ford
200	The term ``astrology' literally means	Star Speech
201	Togo is situated in	Africa
202	Coal is also known as	Black Diamond
203	The first Boxer to win 3 gold medals in Olympics was	Laszlo Papp
204	The first ruler who started war games for his soldiers was	Genghis Khan
205	The first cross word puzzle in the world was published in	1924 by London Sunday Express



206	The lightest known metal is	Lithium
207	The atacama desert is located in	North Chile
208	The oil used to preserve timber is	Creosote oil
209	The founder of USA was	George Washington
210	The first talkie feature film in USA was	The Jazz Singer
211	The chemical name of laughing gas is	Nitrous oxide
212	The US state Mississippi is also known as	Tar Heel state
213	The US state Indiana is also known as	Volunteer state
214	The US state Missouri is also known as	Hoosier state
215	The US state West Verginia is also known as	Blue Grass state
216	The US state known as`Pine Free State'is	Vermount
217	The US state known as `Mountain state'is	Pensylvania
218	The US state known as`Land of `Land of 1000 Lakes'is	Arkansas
219	The popular detective character created by Agatha Christie is	Hercule Poirot
220	The Pakistani President who died in an aircrash was	Zia-ul-Huq
221	Yoghurt means	Fermented milk
222	Yankee is the nickname of	American
223	The International court of Justice is located in	Hague,Holland
224	The headquarters of World Bank is located at	Washington DC
225	Victoria Falls was discovered by	David Livingstone
226	The technique to produce the first test tube baby was evolved by	Patrick Stepote and Robert Edwards
227	The oldest residential university of Britain is the	Oxford University
228	The name of the large clock on the tower of the House of Parliament in London is called	Big Ben
229	Prado museum is located in	Madrid
230	The number of keys in an ordinary piano is	Eighty eight
231	`Man is a Tool Making Animal'was said by	Benjamin Franklin

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|-----|---|-----------------------|
| 232 | The term 'anesthesia' was coined by                       | Oliver Wendell Holmes |
| 233 | The first man to reach Antarctica was                     | Fabian Gottlieb       |
| 234 | The Kilimanjaro volcano is situated in                    | Tanzania              |
| 235 | The invention that is considered to have built America is | Dynamite              |

## Surnames in Geography

No.	Surname in Geography	Country_City
01	Rose-pink City	Jaipur
02	Key of the Mediterranean	Gibraltar
03	Empire City	New York
04	Island of Cloves	Zanzibar
05	Holy Land	Palestine
06	Roof of the World	Pamir
07	World's Loneliest Island	Tristan da Cunha(Mid Atlantic)
08	Island of Pearls	Bahrein (Persian Gulf)
09	Never Never land	Vast Prairies of N.America
10	Queen of the Adriatic	Venice
11	City of the Seven Hills	Rome
12	Manchester of the Orient	Osaka (Japan)
13	Playground of Europe	Switzerland
14	Hermit Kingdom	Korea
15	Land of Morning Calm	Korea
16	Land of Midnight Sun	Norway
17	Land of the Rising Sun	Japan
18	Bengal's Sorrow	Damodar River
19	Land of Maple	Canada
20	Emerland Isle	Ireland
21	Dark Continent	Africa
22	City of Skyscrappers	New York
23	City of Palaces	Calcutta
24	Garden of India	Bangalore
25	Gateway of India	Bombay

26	Cockpit of Europe	Belgium
27	Gift of the Nile	Egypt
28	Eternal City	Rome
29	Granite City	Aberdeen
30	Land of Cakes	Scotland
31	Forbidden City	Lhasa
32	Venice of the North	Stockholm
33	Windy City	Chicago
34	Sugar Bowl of the World	Cuba
35	Whiteman's Grave	Guinea coast of Africa
36	City of Golden Gate	San Francisco
37	Blue Mountains	Nilgiri Hills
38	Britain of the South	New Zealand
39	Garden of England	Kent (England)
40	City of Dreaming Spires	Oxford
41	Great White Way	Broadway (New York City)
42	Herring Pond	Atlantic Ocean
43	The Down Under	Australia
44	Pearl of the Antilles	Cuba
45	Gate of Tears Strait of Babel	Mandeb
46	China's Sorrow	Hwang-Ho
47	City of Magnificent Distances	Washington D.C.
48	Land of Thousand Lakes	Finland
49	Land of Golden Fleece	Australia
50	Islands of Paradise	the Andamans
51	Land of Five Rivers	Punjab

## **Space and Planets**

No.	Question	Answer
1.	Which is the latest theory of evolution of the Universe	Pulsating Universe Theory
2.	The total number of planets in our solar system is	9
3.	which is the nearest planet to the Sun	Mercury
4.	Which is the farthest planet from the Sun	Pluto
5.	which of the planets has rings round it	Saturn
6.	Which of the nine planets is the largest	Jupiter
7.	The outermost halo of the Sun is called	Corona
8.	How many minutes the Sunlight takes to reach to Earth	8.3 minutes
9.	Lunar Eclipse occurs when	The Earth is between the Sun and the Moon
10.	Solar eclipse is caused when	The Moon is between the sun and the Earth.
11.	70 degree of the Sun's mass consists of	Hydrogen
12.	Qantas Airlines belongs to	Australia
13.	The first country to launch any vehicle in space was	USSR (in 1957)
14.	The man who walked first on the Moon, was	Neil Armstrong

## World Info (B)

No.	Question	Answer
1	The person who led the first marine expedition to travel around the world was	Magallan
2	The Spectrum is a popular stadium located at	Philadelphia
3	The Rich stadium is located at	Boston
4	`Silver dome' is a popular stadium located at	Pontiac
5	The Summit is a famous stadium located at	Houston
6	The National Emblem of Ireland is	Shamrock
7	WAGGA WAGGA is a	Town in Australia
8	The `Daily Telegraph' was first published in the year	1885
9	The National Emblem of Australia is	Kangaroo
10	The National Emblem of Canada is	Whitelily
11	The National Emblem of Belgium is	Lion
12	The crescent is the emblem of	Pakistan
13	The busiest airport in the world is	Chicago International Airport
14	The largest continent is	Asia
15	The smallest continent is	Australia
16	The largest country in the world is	Russia
17	The smallest country in the world is	Vatican
18	The Congo river flows in	Angola
19	The Negro river flows in	Argentina
20	UNICEF stands for	United Nations Children's Fund
21	ILO stands for	International Labour Organisation
22	UPU stands for	Universal Postal Union
23	WIPO stands for	World Intellectual Property Organisation
24	UNU stands for	United Nations University

25	WFC stands for	World Food Council
26	The Commonwealth is an association of	52 countries
27	NAM stands for	Non-Aligned Movement
28	The earlier name of Ghana was	Gold coast
29	The most populous country in the world is	China
30	The smallest republic in the world is	Nauru
31	The highest mountain range in the world is the	Himalayas
32	The oldest museum in the world is the	Ashmolean museum,Oxford
33	IRNA stands for	Iranian News Agency
34	The country known as Mother-in-Law of Europe is	Denmark
35	The country known as Our Lady of Snow is	Canada
36	The longest wall in the world is the	Great Wall of China
37	The deepest ocean in the world is	The Pacific
38	The country known as the playground of Europe is	Switzerland
39	The country known as the Celestial Empire is	Egypt
40	The great Victoria desert is located in	Australia
41	The ocean in which Honshu Island is situated is	Pacific
42	The river Mackenzie flows in	Canada
43	The Murray-Darling river flows in	Australia
44	The Gobi desert is located in	Mongolia,China
45	GMT stands for	Greenwich Mean Time
46	The Charter of UNO was signed on	26 June 1945
47	ICAO stands for	International Civil Aviation Organisation
48	The ICAO was established in the year	1947
49	The headquarters of ICAO is located at	Montreal
50	Le Monde is a newspaper published in	France
51	The official publication of the Netherlands is called	Orange book

52	The official publication of France is called	Yellow book
53	Shakespeare passed away in the year	1616
54	John Major,the ex-Prime minister of Britain was from the which party	Conservative
55	The National Emblem of Lebanon is	Cedar tree
56	The National Emblem of Papua New Guinea is	Bird of Paradise
57	FRCP stands for	Fellow of Royal College of Physicians
58	NAFTA stands for	North American Free Trade Agreement
59	Machine gun was invented by	Richard Gatling
60	Elevator was invented by	Elisha G.Otis
61	The measure to know the speed of a ship is	Knot
62	UNICEF was established in the year	1946
63	The headquarters of UNICEF is located at	New York
64	UNEP stands for	United Nations Environment Programme
65	UNEP was established in the year	1972
66	The headquarters of UNEP is located at	Nairobi
67	The Daily Mirror is published in	Britain
68	Jane Austin was a famous	British novelist
69	Christopher Columbus was an	Italian navigator
70	The smallest colony in the world is	Gibraltar
71	The highest town in the world is	Wenchuan
72	Chrysanthemum is the National Emblem of	Japan
73	The National Emblem of USA is	Golden rod
74	IRC stands for	International Red Cross
75	RAF stands for	Royal Air Force
76	`Gone With The Wind'was written by	Margret Mitchel



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|----|----------------------------------|-----------|
| 77 | The earlier name of Ethiopia was | Abyssinia |
| 78 | Cambodia has been renamed as     | Kampuchea |
| 79 | River Tigris flows in            | Iraq      |
| 80 | River Danube flows in            | Hungary   |

## Record-breakers in Geography

No.	Specility	Name
01	Longest River	Nile,4145 miles
02	Highest Plateau	Pamir (Tibet)
03	Highest Volcano	Cotopaxi (Andes,Equador)
04	Longest Mountain System	Andes,South America,8800 km,
05	Deepest place in the Ocean	Off the Island of Mariana Trench,Philippines,36198 ft.
06	Lowest point on Surface	Dead Sea,Israel-Jordan,1312 ft.below sea level
07	Biggest and deepest Ocean	Pacific Ocean,64186300 sq.miles
08	Smallest Ocean	Arctic ocean,5440197 Sq.miles
09	Largest north-south stretch of land	America
10	Largest Continent	Asia,16988000 sq.miles
11	Smallest Continent	Australia,2968000 sq.miles
12	Largest River (in volume)	<a href="#">Amazon</a> (Brazil)
13	Largest River Basin	Basin of Amazon,2720000 sq.miles
14	Largest Salt Water Lake	Caspian Sea(U.S.S.R. and Iran),43550 sq.miles
15	Largest fresh water Lake	Superior (31200 Sq.miles)
16	Deepest Lake	Baikal (Siberia),5315 ft.average depth
17	Largest Artificial Lake	Lake Mead of Boulder Dam (U.S.A.)
18	Highest Navigable Lake	Titicaca (Peru-Bolivia),12506 ft.above sea level
19	Longest Straits	Malacca Straits between Malaysia and Sumatra (Indonesia) 485 miles long.
20	Broadest Strait	Mozambique Straits,between Mozambique and Malagasy, maximum breadth, 245 miles
21	Narrowest Strait	Between Greek mainland and the Island of Euboea,narrowest point,45 yds.
22	Largest Bay	Bay of Bengal,shoreline,2250 miles
23	Largest Gulf	Gulf of Mexico,Shoreline,3100 miles

24	Coldest Regions	Verkhoyansk in N.W.Siberia,temperature 94. F below <a href="#">Zero</a>
25	Hottest Regions	Noerth-West Sahara Azizia (Libya) 58. C
26	Highest mountain peak in the world	Everest 29028 ft.high*(Nepal)
27	Densest population	Monaco,(37687 per Sq.mile)
28	Largest Island	Greenland,840000 Sq.miles(N.Atlantic)
29	Highest Town	Wenchuan (Tibet),16732 ft.above sea-level
30	Highest Village	Aucanquiles in Andes,Chile-17500 ft.
31	Highest Capital City	La Paz (Bolivia),11916 ft.above sea-level
32	Deepest Canyon	Hell's Canyon (U.S.A.),7900 ft.deep
33	Deepest Cave	Gouffre Bergea(France),3723 ft.deep
34	Biggest Desert	Sahara(N.Africa),3500000 sq.miles
35	Largest Peninsula	India
36	Largest Inland Sea	Mediterranean (969100 sq.miles)
37	Largest Sea	Malaya Sea,314000 Sq.miles
38	Largest Gorge	Grand Canyon,Colorado River,277 miles long
39	Deepest Gorge	Hells Canyon,Snake River,7900 ft.deep
40	Highest Rainfall	Mt.Waialeale,Hawai Islands,460 inches
41	Largest Archipelago	Indonesia,comprising 3000 islands
42	Tallest Active Geyser	`Giant' in the Yellowstone National Park (U.S.A.),200 ft high
43	Longest Coral Reef	Great Barrier Reef(Australia),1260 miles long
44	Largest Atoll	Kwajalein,Marshall Islands(Central Pacific)with a 176 miles long coral reef enclosing a lagoon of 1100 Sq.miles
45	Highest Waterfall	Angel Falls(Venezuela),3212 ft.
46	Biggest Waterfall	Guaira(Brazil);average annual flow 470000 cu.ft.per sec.
47	Largest Delta	Sunderban Delta in West Bengal and Bangladesh,8000 sq.miles
48	Northernmost Town	Ny Alesund,Spitsbergen(Norway)
49	Southernmost Town	Puerto Williams,Chile

- |    |                         |                            |
|----|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 50 | Largest Country         | U.S.S.R., 8649550 Sq.miles |
| 51 | Smallest Country        | Vatican City, 108.7 acres  |
| 52 | Highest Mountain System | Himalayas                  |

## Olympic And Asian Games

Year	Place	State
1928	Amsterdam	Netherlands
1932	Los Angeles	U.S.A.
1936	Berlin	Germany
1948	London	U.K.
1952	Helsinki	Finland
1956	Melbourne	Australia
1960	Rome	Italy
1964	Tokyo	Japan
1968	Mexico City	Mexico
1972	Munich	Germany
1976	Montreal	Canada
1980	Moscow	Previous USSR
1984	Los Angeles	USA
1988	Seoul	Korean Republic
1992	Barcelona	Spain
1996	Atlanta	USA
2000	Sidney	Australia
2004	Athens	Greece
2008	Beijing	China

### Asian Games

Year	Place	State
1951	Delhi	India
1954	Manila	Philippines
1958	Tokyo	Japan
1962	Jakarta	Indonesia

1966	Bangkok	Thailand
1970	Bangkok	Thailand
1974	Teheran	Iran
1978	Bangkok	Thailand
1982	Delhi	India
1986	Seoul	South Korea
1990	Beijing	China
1994	Hiroshima	Japan
1998	Bangkok	Thailand
2002	Busan	South Korea
2006	Doha	Qatar

## United Nations Organizations

United Nations Organizations :

United Nations Organization (U.N.O.) officially came into existence on the 24 October, 1945, by ratification of the Charter by China, France, the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. October 24 is called the U.N. Day.

Purposes of the United Nations :

The purposes of the UN are the following : 1) Maintaining international peace and security, 2) Developing friendly relations among nations, 3) Cooperating internationally in solving economic, social, cultural and humanitarian problems and in promoting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and 4) Harmonizing the actions of nations in attaining these common ends.

Human Rights Day :

10th October is observed as the Human Rights Day. The General Assembly of the UNO, recalling that on 10 December, 1973, the world community would celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, expressed the hope that this anniversary would be celebrated in a manner which would fit the occasion and serve the cause of human rights.

Finance of the U.N. :

The U.N. is financed by contributions from member States on the recommendation of the Committee on Contributions. The member States contribute to the expenses of the U.N. budget and to the working Capital Fund.

Headquarters and Offices :

The headquarters of the U.N. is at New York. The European office is at Geneva, Switzerland. U.N. Information Centres and services are operating at 50 capital centres all over the world.

United Nation's Flag :

The flag of the U.N. is light blue in colour and emblazoned in white at the centre with the U.N.'s symbol - a polar map of the world embraced by twin olive branches.

Organs of the United Nations Organization :

The principal organs of the United Nations are : 1) General Assembly, 2) Security Council, 3) Economic and Social Council, 4) Trusteeship Council, 5) International Court of Justice and 6) Secretariat.

U.N. International Agencies :

**The following are U.N. International Agencies :**

1. Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) Its purpose is to help nations to raise living standards and improve efficiency of farming. Its headquarters is in Rome.
2. General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)
3. Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization.(IMCO)- It is a specialized body to [deal](#) with international shipping. Its headquarters is in London.

4. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)- Its aim is to enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity. Its headquarters is in Vienna.
5. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) or World Bank. Its headquarters is in Washington.
6. International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). Its headquarters is in Montreal.
7. International Development Association (IDA)
8. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Its headquarters is in Rome.
9. International Finance Corporation (IFC)- Its purpose is to promote economic development by investing in new and existing enterprises by bringing together private capital and management. Its headquarters is in Washington.
10. International Labour Organization (ILO)- The purpose of ILO are mainly to contribute to lasting peace by promoting social justice, to improve labour conditions and to promote economic and social stability. Its headquarters is in Geneva.
11. International Monetary Fund (IMF)- It is the world's largest source of readily available international credit. Its headquarters is in Washington.
12. International Telecommunication Union (ITU)- Its headquarters is in Geneva.
13. International Trade Organization (ITO)
14. United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)- Its headquarters is in New York.
15. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
16. United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)
17. United Nations Development programme (UNDP)
18. United Nations Disaster Relief Coordination Office (UNDRO)
19. United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Its headquarters is in Paris.
20. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
21. United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)- Its purpose is to promote industrial development of developing countries. Its headquarters is in Vienna.
22. United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)
23. United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)
24. Universal postal Union (UPU) Its headquarters is in Bern.
25. World Health Organization (WHO). This Organization came into being on April 7 in 1948. Its objective is attainment by all people the highest possible level of health. Its headquarters are at Geneva, Switzerland. April 7 is called the World Health Day.
26. World Food Programme (WFP)
27. World Meteorological Organization (WMO). Its headquarters is in Geneva.
28. Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development (SUNFED)





## General Record Breakers

No.	General Record Braker	Name
01	Most populous City in the world	Shanghai
02	Longest Railway Platform	Kharagpur(India),2733 ft.
03	Longest Railroad Tunnel	Seikan (Japan),33.5 miles
04	Longest Suspension Bridge	Verrazano-Narrows, 13700 ft.long,USA
05	Longest Dam	Hirakund(India),15.8 miles
06	Highest Dam	Rogusky (U.S.S.R.),1066 ft.
07	Largest Dam	Kariba (Rhodesia),149000000 acre ft.in volume
08	Longest Road Highway Tunnel	St.Goldhard(Switzerland),10.01 miles
09	Longest Seaway	St.Lawrence seaway(U.S.A.-Canada),189 miles
10	Largest Passenger Ship	Queen Elizabeth II (83000 tonnes)(U.K.)
11	Largest Merchant Ship	Pierre Guillaumat (france),555031 DWT Tonnage
12	Largest Diamond Mine	At Kimberly,South Africa
13	Largest Diamond	Cullinan(Over 1 1/2 lbs.)
14	Tallest Statue	Motherland, an enormous female figure (U.S.S.R.)
15	Largest Temple	Angkor-Vat (Cambodia), 1400 yds. by 1400 yds.
16	Largest Church	Basilica of St.Peter,Vatican City,611 ft.in length and 18110 sq.yds.in area.
17	Tallest Church	Ulm Cathedral (Ger.),529 ft.high
18	Largest Mosque	Jumma Masjid (Delhi),Over 10000 sq.ft. in area
19	Largest Indoor Theatre	Radio City Music Hall (New York),accommodates 6200 persons.
20	Deepest Boring	An oil well of 25340 ft.(Texas, U.S.A.)
21	Largest Palace	The Palace at Vatican City,area 13.5 acres
22	Largest University Building	Lomonosov University (Moscow), has 32 stories
23	Tallest Tower	Tokyo Tower (Japan) 1000 ft.high
24	Biggest Library	United states Library of congress,Washington D.C. Containing over 41874900 titles.

25	Largest Reflector Telescope	Mt.Semirodriki (U.S.S.R.)
26	Largest Bell	Tsar Kolokol at Kremlin (Moscow),weight 193 tons
27	Largest Dome	Astrodome in U.S.A.;outside diameter is 216 metres.
28	Largest Pearl	Pearl of Allah,weighs 14 lbs.2 oz.
29	Biggest Railway Station	Grand Central Terminal(New york),with 47 platforms,48 acres in area.
30	Longest Port	New York Harbour (U.S.A.)
31	Longest Corridor	Rameshwaram Temple's Corridor (India),400 ft.
32	Biggest Auditorium	Municipal Auditorium at Atlantic City (U.S.A.),covers an area of 7 acres.
33	Biggest Stadium	Strahov Stadium (Prague),accommodates 240000 spectators.
34	Biggest <a href="#">Hotel</a>	Conrad Hilton (Chicago,U.s.A.), has 25 floors.
35	Largest Aquarium	John J.Shedd Aquarium,Illinois,(U.S.A.)
36	Biggest Museum	American Museum of Natural History has an area of 23 acres.
37	Largest Thoroughfare	Broadway (New York)
38	Highest Airfield	Ladakh Airfields (Kashmir,India),14230 ft.above sea-level.
39	Biggest Zoo	Etosha Reserve(S.W.Africa),38500 sq.miles
40	Largest Park	Yellowstone National Park (USA)
41	Longest Railway Line	Trans-siberian Railway (USSR) connecting Moscow to Vladivostok
42	Largest Office building	Pentagon (Arlington,U.S.A.),over 34 acres of floor area.
43	Tallest Building	Sears Tower(Chicago), 442 m.
44	Highest Suspension Bridge	Over royal Gorge (Colorado,U.S.A.),1053 ft.high
45	Longest Cantilever Bridge	Quebec (Over St.Lawrence River,Canada),3239 ft.in length.
46	Longest Railway Bridge	Lower Zambesi (Mozambique,Africa),12054 ft.
47	Largest Hydro-electric Plant	Krasnoyarsk (USSR),6096 M.W. capacity
48	Highest Straight Gravity Dam	Bhakra Dam(India), 740 ft.
49	Largest Sculptures	Mount Rushmore National Memorial(Black Hills,S.Dakota,U.S.A.)
50	Highest Lighthouse	Bishop Rock (England), 146 ft.high
51	Longest Viaduct	Lake Panchhartrain Causeway (Louisiana,U.S.A.), with a total length

of 24 miles

- |    |                                    |  |
|----|------------------------------------|--|
| 52 | Longest Wall                       | Great Wall of China(1400 miles)            |
| 53 | Longest recognised swimming course | English Channel (23 miles,calais to Dover) |

## Chronology of Space Travel

- 1957** : Russia launched Sputnik I, first man-made satellite in orbit, and Sputnik II carrying the dog Laika.
- 1958** : USA launched Explorer I and Pioneer III discovered Van Allen Radiation belts.
- 1959** : Russia launched Lunik I, Lunik II and Lunik III, and photographed the hidden side of the Moon.
- 1960** : USA launched Explorer VII. USSR launched Lunik IV with dogs Belka and Strelka. Put them in Orbit and brought them back.
- 1961** : Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin made man's first space flight (one orbit). Second Russian spaceman Gherman Titov made 24 hours (17 orbit) flight in Vostok II.
- 1962** : First American John Glenn made three orbits. US Ranger 4 was the first to reach Moon. Russia sent first probe on Mars. Russian cosmonauts Pavel Popovich and Andrian Nikolayev floated in space.
- 1963** : Valentina Tereshkova became the first [woman](#) to orbit the globe more than 48 times.
- 1964** : Russia sent Voskhod I with three men on board (first time more than one person).
- 1965** : From Voskhod II Russian Alexei Leonov walked in space for 10 minutes. From Gemini Edward White made first American space walk. Wally Schirra and Tom Stafford made space rendezvous when they brought US spaceship Gemini 6 within one foot of Gemini 7.
- 1966** : Russian Luna 9 made soft landing on Moon and sent TV pictures. US surveyor I made first soft landing on Moon.
- 1967** : Space disasters. 3 Americans and 1 Russian Spaceman were killed in their crafts due to mishap.
- 1969** : Russian probes Venera 5 and 6 landed on Venus returning data. American astronaut Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on Moon on July 20. Americans made second landing on Moon on November 14.
- 1970** : Russia soft landed Luna 17 (unmanned) on Moon used first propelled Vehicle 8-wheel Lunokhod, on Moon for exploration.
- 1971** : Alan Shepard and Edgar Mitchell made third landing on Moon with Apollo 14. David Scott and James Irwin made fourth landing on Moon by using the first artificial satellite of Mars. Russia launched Salyut space station. Soyuz II docked with Salyut in space. Russian Capsule from Mars 2 crashed on Mars surface on 21 November.
- 1972** : America launched Pioneer 10 on 1000 million km flight to Jupiter. Pioneer 10 passed through Jupiter belt and passed Jupiter transmitting pictures. It is the first man made object scheduled to escape solar system. 6th and last Apollo mission of USA landed on Moon in December, and astronauts Cernan and Schmitt made a record 75 hour stay on Moon and collected lunar samples.
- 1973** : America launched Pioneer 11 towards Jupiter, and also sent Skylab space station in orbit. Also, Skylab 2, 3 and 4 were launched.
- 1974** : Mariner 10 of USA passed Venus and Mercury for man's first close look at these. Russia sent another Salyut space station.
- 1975** : First US-USSR mission in space. Soyuz 19 launched (USSR) on July 15 and Apollo 18 (USA) launched 7 1/2 hours later docked successfully on July 17. India's Arya Bhatta was launched.
- 1976-84** : 90 space flights in 9 years, 50 by USSR and 40 by USA. The first space shuttle [Columbia](#) was launched in 1981 and returned to earth after 54 hours in space. It can be to launch satellites. US launched Challenger which put Indian's multi-purpose satellite INSAT-1B in Orbit. India's Rohini Satellite was launched into orbit in April 1983. On 9 April, 1984, India became the 14th nation to have sent a man (Sq.Ldr. Rakesh Sharma) into space. On July 25, 1984, Svetlana Savitskaya (USSR) became the first woman to walk in space. Also, Mrs. Sullivan was the first US woman to walk in space.

- 1987 :** Soviet Flt. Cdr. Romanenko made a record of over 237 days stay in space.
- 1989 :** US Spaceship Voyager came close to the planet Neptune in August.
- 1990 :** Japanese Toyohiro Akiyama was in space and broadcast daily from there. He was the first journalist to go in space.
- 1991 :** USA launched shuttle Atlantis with 5 member crew to launch satellite that would peer into exploding suns, cosmic enigmas and other features. US astronomers discovered the biggest galaxy 60 times bigger than our own Milky way. British Scientists detected an orbiting supposed to be a planet outside our solar system.
- 1992 :** Russian cosmonaut, Sergei Krikalev returned after longest stay in space (312 days). USA launched shuttle Endeavour to rescue a failed satellite.
- 1993 :** Both USA and Russia continued with space programmes, NASA's Mars observe probe transmitted its first close up photos of the Martian surface.
- 1994 :** Space walk of first Japanese woman chiaki Mukai. The collision of comet Shoemaker Levy-9 with Jupiter was observed from earth.

## Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full <a href="#">Form</a>
ECOSOC (UN)	Economic and Social Commission
ECM	European Comman Market
ECLA (UN)	Economic Commission for Latin America
ECE (UN)	Economic Commission of Europe
ECAFE (UN)	Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East
CITU	Centre of Indian Trade Union
CIA	Central Intelligence Agency
CENTO	Central Treaty Organization
CBI	Central Bureau of Investigation
ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations
AITUC	All India Trade Union Congress
AICC	All India Congress Committee
ADB	Asian Development Bank
EDC	European Defence Community
EEC	European Economic Community
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation
GATT	General Agreement on Tariff and Trade
GNLF	Gorkha National Liberation Front
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IATA	International Air Transport Association
IBRD	International Bank of Reconstruction & Development
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
IDA	International Development Association
AGP	Assam Gana Parishad

AASU	All Assam Students' Union
GSP	Gana Sangram Parishad
IFC	International Finance Corporation
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INTUC	Indian National Trade Union Congress
INTERPOL	International Police
ITU	International Tele-Communications Union
IRO	International Refugee Organization
KGB	Komitet Gosudarstvennoy Bizo Pasnosti
LTTE	Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam
MISA	Maintenance of Internal Security Act
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
POW	Prisoner of War
SALT	Strategic Arms Limitation Talks
SEADO	South-East Asia Defence Organization
SEATO	South-East Asia Treaty Organization
TAB (UN)	Technical Assistance Board
TNV	Tripura National Volunteers
UNCAFE	United Nations Commission for Asia and East
TULF	Tamil United Liberation Front
UNCTAD	United Nation Conference on Trade & Devt.
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WHO	World Health Organization
WFTU	World Federation of Trade Unions
UPU	Universal Postal Union
UNO	United Nations Organization



UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Org.
UNICEF	United Nations Int. Children's Emergency Fund
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
SDI	Strategic Defence Initiative
CHOGM	Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting
USIS	United States Information Service
NAM	Non-aligned Movement
SAARC	South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation
COFEPOSA	Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Act
BOP	Balance of Payment
FERA	Foreign Exchange Regulation Act
FECTT	Foreign Exchange Conservation Travel Tax
ANC	African National Congress
COMECON	Council for Mutual Economic Assistance
CID	Criminal Investigation Department
HUDCO	Housing & Urban Development Corporation
PLO	Palestine Liberation Organization
PTI	Press Trust of India
RAW	Research & Analysis Wing
SWAPO	South-West African People's Organization
ESA	European Space Agency
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESMA	Essential Services Maintenance Act
ICFTU	International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IDBI	Industrial Development Bank of India
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Devt.

IPA	Integrated Programme for Action
ITDC	India Tourism Development Corporation
ITO	International Trade Organisation
IYSH	International Year of Shelter for Homeless
LIC	Life Insurance Corporation
MRTPC	Monopolice and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission
NABARD	National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Devt.
NCERT	National Council of Educational Research and Training
NDA	National Defence Academy
NEFA	North East Frontier Agency
NCC	National Cadet Corps
NNPT	Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty
NREP	National Rural Employment Programme
OAPEC	Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries
OPEC	Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries
PCS	Public Civil Service
PSC	Public Service Commission
PWD	Public Works Department
UNI	United News of India
UNDRO	United Nations Disaster Relief Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
WFP	World Food Programme
ONGC	Oil and Natural Gas Commission
NSNIS	Netaji Subhash National Institute of Sports
ISI	Indian Standards Institute
UGC	University Grants Commission
DVC	Damodar Vally Corporation
MODVAT	Modified Value Added Tax

NTPC	National Thermal Power Corporation
NHPC	National Hydroelectric Power Corporation
IRDP	Integrated Rural Development Programme

## **Mechanical Inventions Life Science**

No.	Year	Invention	Inventor	Country
01	1285	Spectacles (Curved glass)	Salvino Armado	Italy
02	1450	Printing Press	Caxton	Germany
03	1500	Watch (Main Spring)	Peter Henlein	Germany
04	1590	Microscope	Z.Jansen	Netherlands
05	1609	Telescope	Galiles	Italy
06	1643	Barometer	E.Torricelli	Italy
07	1650	Air Pump	Von Guerick	Germany
08	1656	Clock,Pendulum	G.Huygens	Netherlands
09	1700	Blast furnace	Abraham,Darby	United Kingdom
10	1714	Thermometer,Mercuric	G.D.Fahrenheit	Germany
11	1765	Steam Engine	James Watt	Scotland
12	1767	Spinning Jenny	J.Hargreaves	England
13	1780	Watch (Self winding)	Lewis Recordon	England
14	1783	Baloon	Montgolfier Bros.	France
15	1785	Parachute	F.Blanchard	France
16	1793	Cotton Gin	Eli Whitney	U.S.A.
17	1794	Ball-Bearing	Vanghan	Britain
18	1801	Locomotive,Steam	R.Trevithick	England
19	1803	Steamboat	Robert Fulton	U.S.A.
20	1816	Safety Lamp	Sir H.Davy	England
21	1819	Stethoscope	Laennec	France
22	1825	Railroad (Steam)	G.Stephenson	England
23	1825	Electro-Magnet	W.Sturgeon	England
24	1826	Camera (Photographic)	Joseph Nippce	France
25	1827	Match Friction	John Walker	England

26	1831	Electric Generator	Michael Faraday	England
27	1832	Telegraph	Samuel Morse	U.S.A.
28	1834	Refrigeration,Mechanical	Parkins	U.S.A.
29	1834	Reaper	C.McCormick	U.S.A.
30	1835	Revolver	Colt	U.S.A.
31	1837	Photography,Black & White	Louis Daguerre	France
32	1837	Kalidoscope	David Brewster	England
33	1839	Rubber,Vulcanized	G.Goodyear	U.S.A.
34	1842	Bicycle	Macmillan	Scotland
35	1845	Cinemascope	Aspdin	England
36	1849	Safety Pin	Walter Hunt	U.S.A.
37	1852	Gyroscope	L.Foucalt	France
38	1855	Stove (gas)	Robert Bunsen	Germany
39	1856	Converter	Sir H.Bessemer	England
40	1857	Elevator,Passenger	E.G.Otis	U.S.A.
41	1859	Spectroscope	Bunsen	Germany
42	1860	Dynamo	Picinotti	Italy
43	1861	Machine Gun	R.J.Gatting	U.S.A.
44	1866	Torpedo	Whitehead	England
45	1866	Dynamite	Alfred Nobel	Sweden
46	1866	Sewing Machine	Elias Howe	U.S.A.
47	1868	Typewriter	C.Sholes	U.S.A.
48	1868	Air-Brake for railroads	G.Westinghouse	U.S.A.
49	1869	Plastic (Celluloid)	John W.Hyatt	U.S.A.
50	1870	Celluloid	John W.Hyatt	U.S.A.
51	1876	Telephone	A.Graham Bell	U.S.A.
52	1876	Gas Engine	Nikolaus Otto	Germany
53	1876	Cash <a href="#">Register</a>	James Ritty	U.S.A.

54	1877	Phonograph	T.A. Edison	U.S.A.
55	1877	Microphone	Berliner	U.S.A.
56	1879	Incandescent Lamp	T.A. Edison	U.S.A.
57	1879	Electric Lamp	T.A. Edison	U.S.A.
58	1879	Curburretter	G.Daimler	Germany
59	1883	Rayon	Swan	england
60	1884	Fountain Pen	L.E. Waterman	U.S.A.
61	1885	Motor Cycle	G.Daimler	Germany
62	1885	Automobile	Karl Benz	Germany
63	1885	Linotype	O.Mergenthaler	U.S.A.
64	1885	Internal Combustion Engine	G.Daimler	Germany
65	1885	Adding Machine	Burroughs	U.S.A.
66	1886	Electric Fan	Schuyler S. Wheeler	U.S.A.
67	1887	Gramophone	Berliner	U.S.A.
68	1888	Pneumatic Tyre	Dunlop	North ireland
69	1888	Kodak	George Eastman	U.S.A.
70	1891	Zipper	W.L. Judson	U.S.A.
71	1891	Photography, Colour	Lippman	France
72	1892	Thermos Flask	J. Dewar	England
73	1892	Electric Motor A.C.	Nicola Tesla	U.S.A.
74	1893	Projector	T.A. Edison	U.S.A.
75	1893	Coke oven	Hoffman	Austria
76	1893	Addressograph	J.S. Duncan	U.S.A.
77	1895	Slot Machine	Charles Fey	U.S.A.
78	1895	Radio	G. Marconi	Italy
79	1895	X-ray Machine	W.K. Roentgen	Germany
80	1895	Diesel Engine	Rudolf Diesel	Germany
81	1900	Tractor Caterpillar	B. Holt	U.S.A.

82	1903	Aeroplane	Wright Brothers	U.S.A.
83	1905	Gyro Compass	E.A.Sperry	U.S.A.
84	1907	Vacuum Tube	Lee de Forest	U.S.A.
85	1907	Bakelite	L.H.Backeland	U.S.A.
86	1911	Hydroplane	Glen Curtiss	U.S.A.
87	1911	Airconditioning	W.H.Carrier	U.S.A.
88	1913	Stainless Steel	Harry Brearley	England
89	1914	Tank,Military	E.Swinton	England
90	1918	Rifle,automatic	John M.Browning	U.S.A.
91	1919	Motor Scooter	Greville Bradshaw	England
92	1923	Iconoscope	Zworykin	U.S.A.
93	1924	Loudspeaker	Pin-Kellog	U.S.A.
94	1925	Quick Freezing of Food	Birdseye	U.S.A.
95	1926	Television	John L.Baird	Scotland
96	1929	Rocket,Liquid Fuel	R.H.Goddard	U.S.A.
97	1895	Safety Razor	Gillette	U.S.A.
98	1930	Jet Propulsion	Sir Frank Whittle	England
99	1930	Ball Point Pen	Hoze Ladislao Biro	Argentina
100	1930	Computer (Analog)	Vennevar Bush	U.S.A.
101	1931	Cyclotron	E.O.Lawrence	U.S.A.
102	1931	Cement,Portland	Henri Chretien	France
103	1944	Computer (Digital)	Howard Aiken	U.S.A.
104	1947	Transistor	Bardeen, Shockley, Brattain	U.S.A.
105	1960	Laser	T.H.Mainman	U.S.A.
106	-	Seismograph	Robert Mallet	-
107	-	Hovercraft	Cockrell	-
108	-	Submarine	Bushnell	-
109	-	Radar	R.W.Watt	Britain

110	-	Teleprinter	Bandot and Halseke	-
111	-	Helicopter	Brequet	-
112	-	Crescograph	J.C.Bose	India



## Inventions & Discoveries in Science

No.	Question	Answer
1.	Name the parts which on removal or destruction may cause the death of plant	Roots
2.	The cover of air around the earth is called	Atmosphere
3.	Air occupies	Space & mass
4.	Plants and animals maintain the balance of what in air	Gases
5.	The supporter of combustion in air is	<a href="#">Oxygen</a>
6.	What forms the earth's atmosphere	Air
7.	The major components of air are	Nitrogen & Oxygen
8.	Water is one of the basic constituents of all	Living
9.	The scientific name of Lotus is	Nelumbo
10.	No two human beings are completely	Alike
11.	The process of preparation of food by plants is called	Photosynthesis
12.	All living objects consist of	Cells
13.	The vegetables such as carrot, beet root and radish that you eat are	Roots
14.	Leaves are green because they have	Chlorophyll
15.	Plants manufacture food by the process of	Photosynthesis
16.	From the heart, the blood is transported to all the organs of the body by	Arteries
17.	Which teeth are replaced by the permanent teeth	Milk teeth
18.	The reproductive cell of male is called the	Sperm
19.	The plants use which part of air for their food	Carbon dioxide
20.	Water is one of the basic constituents of all	Plant
21.	Water freezes into ice at	0 degree C.
22.	Water boils at	100 degree C.
23.	The torch cell is a source of which energy	Electrical
24.	Which source of energy wind is?	Renewable

25. Which energy is released by a transistor	<a href="#">Sound</a>
26. Energy is always required for doing	Work
27. Electrical energy is converted mainly into light energy in	Filament
28. The energy hidden in atoms is called	Atomic
29. Balance in nature is the balance between the population of	Species
30. A famous mathematician of ancient India is	Aryabhatta
31. A substance which can exist as solid,liquid and gas	Water
32. The power of an electric bulb is marked in	Watts
33. Water stored in a high-level dam has	Potential energy
34. The dry cell produces electric energy from	Chemical energy
35. The unit used for measuring distances between heavenly objects,is	Light Year
36. Musical instrument in which sound is produced by the vibration of air is	Flute
37. Carbohydrates are present in	Cane Sugar
38. The gas used for disinfecting water is	Chlorine
39. Sand is a compound of	Silicon
40. A mixture of salt and camphor can be separated by	Sublimation
41. A magnet can be used to seperate a mixture of	Iron scrap and sulphur
42. The chemical which is not used for purifying water is	Washing soda
43. A bird which is active during night is	Owl
44. Hydrilla is a plant that grows in	Water
45. A plant which stores food in the root is	Ginger
46. In most flowers the most colorful part is the	Petal
47. The temperature of the surroundings is detected by	The Skin
48. The number of kinds of living organisms on this earth is about	Two & half million
49. A species of animals means	A group of similar animals
50. There are some plants which do not have	Leaves

51. An animal without a <a href="#">special</a> organ for hearing is	Snake
52. The sense organ in man which are sensitive to chemicals are	Skin & nose
53. The tallest tree in the world is	The redwood tree
54. Normally, a housefly lives for about	One year
55. In the human body urine is formed in	The kidneys
56. The pancreas in our body is a part of	The digestive system
57. The blood vessels that we can see just below the skin on the back of our palm are	Arteries & veins
58. The presence of starch in the leaf is shown by	Iodine
59. All the cells are similar in structure and function in	A tissue
60. The source of energy for all living things is	The sun
61. An animal which cannot take solid food is	Butterfly
62. Anaemia is usually caused by	Glucose
63. The simplest form of carbohydrate is	Aminoacid
64. The smallest unit of a protein is	80-90
65. The percentage of weight of water in our body is about	C
66. Scurvy is caused by lack of vitamin	Vitamins
67. Vegetables are included in our diet because mostly they supply	Vitamins
68. The most widely seen minerals in the bones are	Calcium and Phosphorus
69. Digested food is mostly absorbed through the	Small intestine
70. The diet of a 2-year old baby should contain more	Protein
71. Tobacco plant makes nicotine in	The leaves

## Trade Names

No.	Trade	Products
1.	Allwyn	Refrigerator,steel furniture,watches
2.	Agfa	Photo <a href="#">goods</a>
3.	Ambassador	Car
4.	Amul	Butter,Ghee,Cheese,Chocolate
5.	Aerolon	Hair Spray
6.	Atlas	Bicycle
7.	Avon	Bicycle
8.	Bata	<a href="#">Shoes</a> and rubber goods
9.	Bayer	Chemicals
10.	Bajaj	Scooters & Electrical Appliances
11.	Binny's	Cotton Textiles
12.	Black Bird	Fountain Pen
13.	Black and black	Whisky
14.	Brooke Bond	Tea
15.	B.S.A.	Motor Cycle,Bicycle
16.	Brasso	Brass Polish
17.	Brylcream	Hair Cream
18.	Borolyn	Antiseptic Skin Cream
19.	Britannia	Bread,Cake,Biscuit
20.	Bigston	Television
21.	Burshane	Cooking Gas
22.	Binaca	Tooth Paste,Tooth Brush,Powder
23.	Cadbury	Chocolate
24.	Caltex	Petroleum
25.	Ceat	Tyres

26.	Chelpark	Ink
27.	Colt	Revolver
28.	Crown	T.V.
29.	Crompton	Motors,Fans,Light
30.	Cuticura	Talcum powder,Soap
31.	Cinthol	Soap,Powder
32.	Cobra	Boot Polish
33.	Daurala	Sweets and Sugar
34.	Dodge	Motor Car
35.	Eveready	Batteries,Torches,Cell
36.	Eastern Star	Bicycle
37.	Exide	Batteries
38.	Esso	Petroleum
39.	Flit	Insecticide
40.	Flex	Shoes
41.	Favre Leuba	Watches
42.	Firestone	Tyres
43.	Ford	Motor Car,Truck,Tractor
44.	Gem	Refrigerators
45.	Gillette	Razor Blades
46.	Godrej	Safes,Soaps,Refrigerators,Steel Furniture
47.	Grundig	Electronic goods
48.	Haig	Whisky
49.	Hercules	Cycles
50.	Hennol	Hair Dye
51.	Indane	Cooking Gas
52.	Kassel	Fans
53.	Kiwi	Boot Polish

54.	Kodak	Photographic Goods
55.	Kolynos	Tooth Paste and Brush
56.	Landmaster	Motor Car
57.	Lal Imli	Wollens
58.	Liberty	Shirts
59.	Max Factor	Cosmetics
60.	Mauser	Pistol
61.	Matador	suitings
62.	Murphy	Radio
63.	Nivea	Skin Cream
64.	Onida	T.V.
65.	Optrex	Eye Drop
66.	Omega	Wrist Watches
67.	Peps	Throat Drugs
68.	Panama	Safety Razor Blades,Cigarettes
69.	Parker	Fountain Pen
70.	Polson	Butter
71.	Pye	T.V.,Radio
72.	Philips	Electrical Goods,Radio,Television
73.	Quink	Ink
74.	Raleigh	Bicycle
75.	Remington	Typewriter,Office equipment and machines
76.	Enfield	Motor Cycle
77.	<a href="#">Rolex</a>	Watches
78.	Silvikrin	Hair Tonic
79.	Shalimar	Paints,Biscuits
80.	Singer	Sewing Machine
81.	True Tone	Hair Dye

82.	Usha	Fans,Sewing Machine
83.	Voltas	Air-conditioning,Refrigerators
84.	Westclock	Time-piece
85.	Zeal	Thermometer

## General Studies

No.	Question	Answer
1.	The President of India may resign his office by <a href="#">writing</a> under his hand a letter of resignation addressed to the	Vice-President
2.	The president of India holds office for a term of	5 years
3.	A person seeking election to the office of the President of India must have completed the age of	35 years
4.	Who appoints the Attorney General of India?	President
5.	Next to Uttar Pradesh, the largest number of constituencies for elections to the Lok Sabha are in the State of	Bihar
6.	The elections to the Lok Sabha are required normally to be held after every	5 years
7.	The boundary between India and Pakistan was demarcated by	Sir Cyril Radcliffe
8.	Name the scholar who visited India along with Mahmud of Ghazni	Al-Beruni
9.	Which forest belt supplies most of the world's requirement of newsprint?	Coniferous
10.	The country where death rate is lowest in the world is	Canada
11.	What is the duration of <a href="#">zero</a> hour in the Lok Sabha?	One hour
12.	Sun's energy is produced by	Nuclear fusion
13.	Who was the Congress President when India became free?	J.B. Kripalani
14.	In India the standard time is fixed on the basis of standard meridian which passes through	Allahabad
15.	The Arabian Sea and the Persian Gulf are connected by the	Hormuz Strait
16.	"The Boston Tea Party" took place in	1773
17.	In the American War of Independence, the leader who was put in command of American forces was	George Washington
18.	Which Sikh guru was tortured and killed on the directions of Aurangzeb?	Teg Bahadur



19.	Since when India has been a member of the United Nations?	1945
20.	Proteins are made of	Amino acids
21.	A light-sensitive compound used in photography is	Silver bromide
22.	The India Red Cross Society was established in the year	1920
23.	The speed of an aircraft is measured by	Anemometer
24.	Fats and carbohydrates are an essential part of our food because they	Provide energy
25.	Which is the largest part of the human brain?	Cerebellum
26.	Milk in its natural <a href="#">form</a> has a certain amount of sugar. This sugar is called	Lactose
27.	The United Nations University is located in	Tokyo
28.	Which country is largest in area?	Russia
29.	Buddha delivered his first sermon at	Sarnath
30.	Vitamin necessary for clotting of blood is	K
31.	The oldest existing newspaper in India is	Bombay Samachar
32.	Which port has a free trade zone?	Kandla
33.	The largest quantity of fish in the world is produced by	Japan & Russia
34.	World's largest desert is	Sahara
35.	India's first television center was set up at	Delhi
36.	In which script were the edicts of Ashoka inscribed?	Brahmi
37.	Harshvardhana was defeated by	Pulakesin II
38.	Which day is celebrated as United Nations day every year?	24th October
39.	The headquarters of the United Nations is at	New York
40.	The total number of judges of the International Court of justice is	12
41.	The term of office of a judge of the International Court of Justice is	9 years
42.	The normal term of office of the UN Secretary General is	5 years

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|-----|--|---|
| 43. | IRS-IB is  | An Indian remote sensing satellite  |
| 44  | Why is the year 1952 important in Indian History?          | First general elections to the Lok Sabha were held                                  |
| 45. | What is an equator?  | An imaginary line encircling the earth midway between the north and the south poles |
| 46. | Why is it easier to swim in a sea than river?              | Density of sea water is more than that of river                                     |
| 47. | Who is known as the 'Heroine of 1942 Quit India Movement'? | Aruna Asaf Ali  |

## **Trophies**

### International Trophies

Trophies	Associated with
Ashes	Cricket (Australia-England)
Canada Cup	Golf (World Championship)
Corbillon Cup	World Table Tennis( <a href="#">Women</a> )
Davis Cup	Lawn Tennis
Derby	Horse Race (England)
Merdeka Cup	Football (Asian)played in Malaysia
Swaythling Cup	World Table Tennis(Men)
Thomas Cup	World badminton
Tunku Abdul Rahman Cup	Badminton (Asian)
Uber Cup	World Badminton (Women)
Wimbledon Trophy	Lawn Tennis (England)
Jules Rimet Trophy(thereafter called FIFA)	World Football

## **Indian National Trophies**

Trophies	Associated with
Aga Khan Cup	Hockey (Western India)
Beighton Cup	Hockey (Calcutta)
D.C.M.Trophy	Football
Dhyan Chand Trophy	Hockey
Dr.B.C.Roy Trophy	National Football (Junior)
Duleep Trophy	Cricket
Durand Cup	Football
I.F.A.Shield	Football (Calcutta)
Irani Cup	Cricket

Jayalakshmi Cup	National Table Tennis Chamionship (Women)
Nehru Cup	Football
Ruia Challenge Gold Trophy	Bridge
Rangaswamy Cup	National Hockey Championship
Ranji Trophy	National Cricket Championship
Rohinton Baria Trophy	Cricket (Inter-University)
Rovers Cup	Football
Santosh Trophy	National Football Championship
Subroto Mukherji Cup	Football (Inter-School)
Vizzy Trophy	Cricket
Wellington Trophy	Rowing
Federation Cup	Football

## Geographical Discoveries

No.	Discovery	Discoveror	Country	Year
01	South Pole (Explored)	Amundsen	Norway	1911
02	North Pole (Explored)	Robert Edwin Peary	USA	1909
03	Hawaiian Island	Captain James cook	England	1770
04	Australia	Captain James cook	England	-
05	Sea-route to India via the Cape of Good Hope	Vasco-D-Gama	Portugal	1498
06	Course of the Zambesi river,the Victoria Falls	David Livingstone	Scotland	-
07	America	Cristopher Columbus	Italy	1497

## **Body Facts**

- Bones :** The largest bones is the femur, or thigh bone which is 20 inches in a six-foot tall man. The smallest bone is the stirrup in the ear, which is one-tenth of an inch. Each had has 27 bones : eight in the wrist, five in the palm, and 14 in the fingers. A newborn baby has 300 bones, some of which fuse to [form](#) in the adult.
- Blood :** In a child, there are 60,000 miles of blood vessels. An adult has 100,000 miles of blood vessels. The blood circulates through the body 1,000 times a day.
- Brain :** A newborn baby has a brain that weights three ounces. The average brain of an adult weighs three pounds. The brains is the "mission control center" of the body, sending our messages at a rate of 240 miles per hour. The left side of the brain controls the right side of the body and the right side of the brain controls the left side of the body.
- Cells :** The cells are the body's building blocks. There are about 26 billion cells in an adult.
- Eyes :** Each eye weighs 1 1/4 ounces. The eyes are constantly in motion, even during sleep. Tears keep the eyes warm and are continually secreted through 12 ducts in the eye. Tears are normally secreted through two canals near the inner corner of the eyes.
- Fluid :** The body is two-thirds water. Blood is 83% water, muscles are 75% water, the brain 74% water, and the bones contain 22% water. In a single day, three pints of saliva are produced in the mouth.
- [Hair](#) :** Kids have about 75,000 hairs on their heads, which grow about 1/100 of an inch daily. Hairs of different colors grow at different rates. Dark hair grows faster than light-colored hair. No one known why. Each hair on the scalp grows about five inches a year. Eyelashes keep dust out of the eyes. Aneyelash lives about 150 days before it falls out and is replaced.
- Muscles** There are over 650 muscles in the body, form the tiny ones that move the legs. The strongest muscle : is the masseter muscle of the jaw. It takes at least 14 muscles to smile. The smallest in the body is located in the middle ear. Fingers have no muscles.
- [Nails](#) :** Nails are made up of hardened skin called kertain. Nails protect the ends of the fingers and toes. The half-moon at the root of the nail is called the lunule. Nails grow faster in summer than in winter. Fingernails grow fourtimes faster than toenails. Right - handed people's nails grow faster in their right hands. Left-handed people's nails grow faster on their left hand.
- Nose :** More than 2,500 gallons of air flow through the average adult's nose in a day. The nose can recognize up to 1,000 different smells. The nose is the air conditioning unit of the body. It cools or warms incoming air. It also filters the dirt and dust in the air.
- Skin :** The human body has six pounds of skin which is, on average, 1/20 of an inch thick. The two layers of skin are the epidermins and under it, the dermis. The skin is waterproof, it protects the body and helps to regulate body temperature. A substance called melanin colors the skin the more melanin, the darker the skin. A freckle is a dense [concentration](#) of melanin. A new layer of skin replaces the old layer approximately every 27 days, totalling about 1,000 new outer layers of skin a lifetime.
- Teeth :** Humans have 20 primary Baby teeth and 32 permanent teeth. By age 13 most people have 28 teeth. By age 18 the four "wisdom" teeth have grown in for a total of 32 permanent teeth.

## Sports Terms

No.	Sport	Terms
1	Badminton	Deuce, Drop, Smash, Let, Love.
2	Billiards	Cue, Jigger, Pot, Scratch, Cannons.
3	Boxing	Jab, Hook, Kidney Punch, Rabbit Punch, Slam, Uppercut, Knockout.
4	Chess	Bishop, Gambit, Checkmate, Stalemate.
5	Cricket	L.B.W., Stumped, Bye, Leg-Bye, Googly, Hat-trick, Follow on, Gully, Drive, Duck, No Ball, Cover Point, Silly point, Pitch, Leg Break, Silly point, Cover point, Hit-Wicket, Late-cut, Slip, Stone-walling, Chinaman, Leg spinner, The Ashes, Bodyline Bowling, Bumper Bowling, Chucker.
6	Football	Off-side, Dribble, Throwin, Touch-down, Stopper, Penalty, Foul, Drop-kick.
7	Golf	Bogey, Hole, Put, Tee, Stymic, Caddle.
8	Hockey	Bully, Penalty-corner, Stick, Scoop, Sudden-death, Tie-breaker, Carried, Roll in, Striking Circle, Under cutting.
9	Rifle-Shooting	Bully's eye (Centre of target)
10	Lawn Tennis	Volley, Smash, Deuce, Service, Let, Grnad Slam, Double Fault, Back hand drive.
11	Wrestling	Half Nelson, Heave.
12	Volleyball	Deuce, spikers, Booster
13	Athletics	Dead Heat, Steeple Chase, Photo Finish.

## First-Space, Visitors, Invaders & Expeditioners

No.	Space First	Name
01	The first man to enter space	Yuri Gagarin (USSR) in 1961
02	The first person to land on the moon	Neil A Armstrong (USA) on July 21, 1969
03	The first <a href="#">woman</a> to enter space	Valentina Tereshkova (USSR) in 1963
04	The first unmanned moon-buggy to explore surface of the moon	Lunokhod-I (USSR)
05	The first spaceship which carried man on the moon	Apollo-11
06	The first person to float (to walk) in space	Alexi Leonov (USSR)
07	The first space vehicle to softland on moon	Luna-9 (USSR)
08	The first reusable space shuttle	<a href="#">Columbia</a> (USA)
09	The first person to walk in space without a safety line	Bruce McCandless (USA)
10	The first satellite to be repaired in orbit	Solar Max
11	The first space rocket to hit the moon	Lunik II (USSR)
12	The first spacecraft to soft-land on Mars	Viking-I (USA)
13	The first artificial earth satellite	Sputnik-I of USSR (1957)

No.	First Visitor & Invader	Name
01	The first European invader on Indian Soil	Alexander the Great
02	The first European to visit China	Marco Polo
03	The first Chinese Pilgrim who came to India	Fahien

No.	First Expeditioner	Name
01	The first woman to conquer Mt.Everest	Mrs.Junko Tabei (Japan) in 1975
02	The first man to conquer Mt.Everest	Sherpa Tenzing (India) in 1953
03	The first man to have climbed Mt.Everest twice	Nawang Gombu
04	The first person to sail round the world	Magellan (Portugal) in 1519



## **A Doctor Directory**

**Allergist :** Treats allergies.

**Anesthesiologist :** Puts patients to sleep before surgery.

**Cardiologist :** Treats heart ailments.

**Dermatologist :** Treats the skin and its diseases.

**Endocrinologist :** Treats the glands, such as the thyroid and adrenal, which secrete body hormones.

**Gastroenterologist :** Specializes in diseases and disorders of the digestive system.

**Gerontologist :** Treats diseases of old age.

**Gynecologist :** Treats the female reproductive system.

**Hematologist :** Treats blood diseases.

**Immunologist :** Specializes in the body's defense system against infection and disease.

**Nephrologist :** Treats kidney disorders.

**Neurologist :** Treats the nervous systems.

**Obstetrician :** A doctor who cares for [women](#) throughout pregnancy.

**Orthopedist :** Treats disorders of bones and muscles.

**Orthodontist :** A dentist who specializes in straightening teeth.

**Otolaryngologist :** Treats ailments of the nose, throat and ears.

**Pathologist :** Studies the cause, development and manifestations of disease.

**Pediatrician :** Specializes in the care and treatment of infants and children.

**Plastic Surgeon :** Repairs, restores or improves body parts.

**Psychiatrist :** Treats illness and disorders of the mind.

**Radiologist :** X-rays body parts and organs for medical diagnosis.

**Rheumatologist :** Treats diseases of body joints.

**Urologist :** Treats the urinary tract of the body.

## Indian Geography

India is the largest country in the Indian Subcontinent, deriving its name from the river Indus which flows in the northwest. Indian mainland extends in the tropical zone from latitude 8°4' north to 37°6' north and from longitude 68°7' east to 97°25' east. The country lies wholly in the northern and eastern hemispheres. Even though it falls under Monsoon climatic category, the climate varies from one place to another. India stretches 3,214 km from north to south and 2,933 km from east to west. The total length of the mainland coastline is nearly 6,100 km and the land frontier is about 15,200 km. With an area of about 3,287,782 sq. km, India is the seventh largest country in the world and accounts 2.4% of total world area. The north of the country is bordered by the mighty Himalayas, the highest mountains on earth. These ranges separate India from China, Tibet and Bhutan in the east. Kanchanjunga (8598 Mtrs) is the highest mountain peak in India. On the western side, India is separated by Arabian Sea and on Eastern side by Bay of Bengal. The Indian ocean on the south separates India from rest of the world. In the north, the mighty river Ganga, which has the source in Himalaya, with its tributaries, drains a large part of the north and created a fertile Gangetic Plain. South of the northern plains, the land rises up into the high plateau known as the Deccan and stretches itself till Indian peninsulas. With Vidhyas and Satapura on the north, it is bordered by Sahyadris (Western Ghat) on west and by Eastern Ghat on the East. These two Ghats run parallel to the coast and meet in the extreme south in Nilgiri hills.

## Indian Scientific Research Institutes

No.	Institute	Place
01	Bhabha Atomic Research Centre	Trombay near Mumbai (Maharashtra)
02	Indian Cancer Research Centre	Mumbai
03	Physical Research Centre	Ahmedabad (Gujrat)
04	Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics	Calcutta (W.Bengal)
05	Tata Institute of Fundamental Research	Mumbai (Maharashtra)
06	Central Jute Technological Research Institute	Calcutta (W.Bengal)
07	Central Marine Research Station	Madras (Tamilnadu)
08	Central State Farm	Suratgarh (Rajasthan)
09	Forest Research Institute	Dehra Dun (U.P.)
10	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	New Delhi
11	Indian Institute of Science	Bangalore (Karnataka)
12	Indian Space Research Organisation	Thumba (Kerala)
13	National Dairy Research Institute	Karnal (Haryana)
14	National Sugar Research Institute	Kanpur (U.P.)
15	All-India Institute of Medical Sciences	New Delhi
16	Indian Veterinary Research Institute	Mukteshwar and Izatnagar (U.P.)
17	Institute of Ayurvedic Studies & Research	Jamnagar (Gujrat)
18	Council of Scientific and industrial Research	New Delhi

## Indian Mythology Study of Science

No.	Question	Answer
1.	What was the condition on which Ganesha agreed to <a href="#">write</a> the Mahabharata?	Ganesha said, "I will be the scribe if you can recite it without break."
2.	What was the condition Vyasa laid down for Ganesha to write Mahabharata?	Vyasa said, "You will not inscribe if the meaning is not clear to you."
3.	What was the original name of Mahabharata?	Jaya. It was said of the Mahabharata, "What is here may be found elsewhere too but what is not here cannot be found anywhere."
4.	For how many days was the Battle of Kurukshetra fought?	Eighteen days.
5.	Where did the battle between Rama and Ravana take place?	Lanka.
6.	What is the meaning of the word 'Shiva'?	The auspicious one.
7.	What was the initial <a href="#">reaction</a> of Kumbhakarna when he heard about the abduction of Sita by Ravana?	He disapproved of it and advised Ravana to restore Sita to Rama.
8.	What was the name of Sugriva's wife?	Ruma.
9.	Why did Hanuman leap towards the Sun soon after birth?	He thought it was an eatable.
10.	Who made Rama and Lakshmana expert archers?	Vishwamitra.
11.	What was the name of the kingdom ruled by Drupada?	Panchala.
12.	How did earth come to be called as Prithvi?	King Prithu was the first among men to till the soil and make it yield crops. The word Prithvi is derived from Prithu.
13.	What was the name of the Yajna performed by Dasharatha to obtain sons?	Putrakameshti Yajna.
14.	What does the word Bhishma mean?	The terrible. When he took the vow to remain celibate throughout his life, the gods showered flowers on him, while uttering the word "Bhishma".
15.	Sage Pulastya's grandson became a mighty king. Who was he?	Ravana.
16.	Why did Dasharatha kill Shravan Kumar?	He mistook the <a href="#">sound</a> of water being filled in the pot by Shravan Kumar for an animal drinking

water.

17. Who performed the Putrakameshti Yajna for King Dasharatha? Rishyashringa.
18. What was the original name of Indrajit? Meghanada.
19. Who was the father of Bhishma? King Shantanu.
20. What were the names of Kama's foster parents? Radha and Adhiratha.
21. What was the name by which Kama was called by his father when he was young? Vasushena.
22. Where did Drona go when he was insulted by Drupada? Hastinapura.
23. Who was Devayani? Devayani was the daughter of Shukracharya.
24. Who threw Devayani into a well? Sharmishtha, the daughter of Vrishaparva, the king of the asuras.
25. Who took Devayani out of the well? King Yayati.
26. Who was the mother of Bhishma? Ganga.
27. What was the name of Sati's father? Daksha Prajapati.
28. How many children did Gandhari have? 101. A hundred Kauravas and a daughter.
29. Who was the only daughter of Gandhari and who was her husband? Dushshala. Jayadratha was her husband.
30. Who was the mother of Shakuntala? Menaka.
31. How was Hiranyaksha related to Hiranyakashipu? He was his brother.
32. What was the name of Dhruva's father? Uttanapada.
33. What was the name of Satyabhama's father? Satrajit, a Yadava chieftain.
34. From whom did Kama receive the divine armour? He was born with the divine armour (kavacha) and earrings (kundala).
35. Who took Krishna and Balarama to Mathura from Vrindavan? Akrura.
36. Why is Rama sometimes called Raghava? Raghava means a descendant of Raghu. In this sense not only Rama but also Lakshmana, Bharata and Shatrughna can be called Raghava. But traditionally the eldest male was given the appellation.

37. What is the name of Indra's elephant? Airavata.
38. Why did King Shibi cut off his flesh? Shibi had given refuge to a dove. When the kite claimed that the dove was his lawful prey, Shibi offered to give any other flesh in lieu of the dove. To this, the kite asked for the flesh cut from Shibi's right thigh equal in weight to the dove.
39. Where in modern India was the ancient kingdom of Virata? Ajmer.
40. What was the capital of Indra's kingdom? Amaravati.
41. Who was Vali's son? Angada.
42. What was the name of Shakuntala's husband? Dushyanta.
43. Where did Janaka find Sita? Sita was found when a field was being ploughed for preparing the spot for a Yajna to be performed by Janaka (Sita literally means furrow).
44. Who offered poisoned sweets to Bhima when he was young? Duryodhana.
45. In what disguise did Arjuna go to Mount Raivataka to abduct Subhadra? In the disguise of a sanyasi (with the permission of Krishna).
46. Who were Abhimanyu's parents? Arjuna and Subhadra.
47. A son of Hiranyaksha, he ruled over Pragjyotisha. He was such a menace to the devas that Indra implored Krishna to help him. At this request Krishna along with his wife Satyabhama, attacked the city of Pragjyotisha and killed this asura. Name the asura. Narakasura.
48. Who was the half-brother of Dhruva? Uttama.
49. What is the meaning of the word Pandava? Pandava means an offspring of Pandu. Therefore Yudhishtira is a Pandava., So is Arjuna and their brothers.
50. Who did Ekalavya consider as his Guru? Dronacharya. Ekalavya made a statue resembling Dronacharya and practised archery in front of the statue.
51. When the Kauravas led by Duryodhana went to Dvaitavana forest to enjoy the sight of the suffering Pandavas, who fought with them and took Duryodhana prisoner? Chitrasena, the Gandharva.

- |     |   |   |
|-----|---|---|
| 52. | Who defeats the Gandharva King Chitrasena and frees the Kauravas?                       | Arjuna.   |
| 53. | Which are the ten incarnations of Vishnu?   | 1. Matsya (Fish)<br>2. Kurma (Tortoise)<br>3. Varaha (Boar)<br>4. Narasimha (Man-Lion)<br>5. Vamana (Dwarf)<br>6. Parashurama (Rama of the Axe)<br>7. Rama<br>8. Krishna<br>9. Buddha<br>10. Kalki<br>Jayadeva was one of the first to consider Buddha as an avatar. Till then Balarama was considered an avatar. |
| 54. | Who crowned Kama as the king of Anga?   | Duryodhana.   |
| 55. | What was the name of Draupadi's father?   | Drupada.  |
| 56. | With whom does Nala play the game of dice?  | Pushkara, his cousin. (His brother according to some versions.)   |
| 57. | What was the name of Draupadi's brother?  | Dhrishtadyumna.   |
| 58. | How did Hanuman get the name Anjaneya?  | Because he was the offspring of Anjana.   |
| 59. | Who succeeded Aja to the throne of Ayodhya?   | Dasharatha.   |
| 60. | Who presented the bow, Gandiva to Arjuna?   | Varuna at the request of Agni.  |
| 61. | What was the real name of Bhishma?  | Devavrata.  |
| 62. | What was the name of the Kaurava, who joined the Pandavas in the Battle of Kurukshetra? | Yuyutsu. He was a half-brother of the Kauravas.   |
| 63. | What was the name of Krishna's bow?   | Saranga.  |
| 64. | With what weapon did Krishna kill Shishupala?   | Sudarshana Chakra.  |
| 65. | To whom does Yudhishtira offer the first worship at the time of the Rajasuya Yajna?     | To Krishna.   |
| 66. | Who killed Jarasandha in a wrestling duel?  | Bhima.  |
| 67. | Why is Arjuna called Partha?  | From Pritha, the real name of Kunti. (Though the name Partha is equally applicable to Yudhishtira and Bhima also, Arjuna was more often referred to as Partha).   |
| 68. | Who built the palace at Indraprastha for the Pandavas?                                  | Maya.   |

69	Of which kingdom was Shalya, the king?	Madra.
70	Why did Gandhari cover her eyes?	Her husband* Dhritarashtra was blind. She wanted to share his fate. Hence she blindfolded herself.
71	On behalf of the Kauravas, who played the game of dice with the Pandavas?	Shakuni.
72	Who prompts Durvasa to go, with his disciples, to the hermitage of the Pandavas?	Duryodhana.
73	What was the name of Rama's bow?	Kodanda.
74	Who was the charioteer of Krishna?	Daruka.
75	What was the name of the kingdom ruled by Jarasandha?	Magadha.
76	Where is Uplavaya?	It was a minor city in the kingdom of Virata.
77	What was the name assumed by Draupadi when the Pandavas lived in disguise in King Virata's kingdom?	Sairandhri.
78	Why is Kama sometimes called Radheya?	From his foster mother, Radha. Radheya means an offspring of Radha.
79	Identify the child who was blessed in the following manner by the devas: - Vishnu - "May you live your life as the greatest devotee of god" Indra - "No weapon of any kind will wound or hit your body" Agni - "Fire will never affect you."	Hanuman.
80	What form did Maricha assume to deceive Rama? And why?	He assumed the form of a golden deer and lured Rama away from his hermitage. When Rama's arrow pierced him, he cried out, imitating Rama's voice, "Ha, Lakshmana". When Lakshmana went out to help Rama, Ravana seized the opportunity to abduct Sita.
81	Who was called as Vaasudeva?	Vaasudeva means an offspring of Vasudeva. Both Krishna and Balarama could be called Vaasudeva but traditionally only Krishna is called Vaasudeva.
82	What was the real name of Draupadi?	Krishnaa.
83	How did Sita get the name Janaki?	From Janaka, her father.
84	When Bhima was poisoned by the Kauravas and	It is believed that Nagaloka is situated deep below



	thrown into the depths of River Ganga, how was he saved?	the river. Here Bhima was bitten several times by the serpents, which neutralised the effect of poison in his body.
85	What is the origin of the name, Panchavati, where Rama is said to have built a hermitage?	Five Banyan trees. Pancha (Five) Vata (Banyan tree).
86	Who was Kacha's father?	Brihaspati.
87	For how many years did Janamejaya's Sarpa-satra last?	Twelve years.
88	Who were the physicians to the devas?	Ashwini twins.
89	Heroes in ancient times often had more than one name. Given below are sets of names. Identify the name by which they are commonly known: - a. Kapidhvaja, Bibhatsu, Dhananjaya, Savyasachi, Kiriti, Krishna. b. Ajatashatru, Dharmaja, Dharmaputra, Mridangaketu. c. Vallava, Marutatmaja, Vayusuta, Pawanaputra.	a. Arjuna. b. Yudhishtira. c. Bhima.
90	Who seized Draupadi by the hair and dragged her into the court?	Dushshasana.
91	What did Sita give Hanuman to be shown to Rama?	Chudamani (Crest Jewel).
92	When Ganga descended from heaven, who bore the force of her descent?	Shiva.
93	Who was Purochana?	A minister of Duryodhana who built the shellac palace at Varanavata.
94	What was the virtue for which Kama was famous?	Generosity.
95	What was the name assumed by Arjuna in Virata's palace?	Brihannala.
96	Whose incarnation was Lakshmana supposed to be?	Lakshmana is said to be the incarnation of Maha Shesha (the great snake).
97	When Hanuman was asked to bring Sanjivani from Gandhamadana, why did he carry the whole mountain?	Because he could not recognize the Vishalyakarani (Sanjivani) from other herbs.
98	What was the name of Dronacharya's father?	Sage Bharadwaja.
99	Who was Lakshmana's wife?	Urmila.
100	What was the capital of Janaka's kingdom?	Mithila.

101	Where did Arjuna hide his weapons before entering Virata's palace?	On a Shami tree.
102	What was the name of king Virata's son?	Uttara Kumar.
103	What was the name of King Virata's wife?	Sudeshna.
104	What was the name of the bow, which Rama broke in Janaka's capital?	Shiva-Dhanush.
105	What was the name of the vulture that fought with Ravana to save Sita?	Jatayu.
106	How many heads does Brahma have?	Four (To indicate that he could see in all the four directions).
107	What was the name of the Vali's wife?	Tara.
108	Whom did Sugriva send to meet Rama on his behalf?	Hanuman.
109	Who were the Ashta-Dikpalakas?	The guardians of the eight directions.
110	For whom does Nala work as a charioteer?	King Ritupama.
111	When Kunti meets Kama to dissuade him from fighting, what assurance does he give her?	Her sons, with the exception of Arjuna will not come to harm from him.
112	Soon after the Pandavas and the Kauravas gathered in Kurukshetra, why did Yudhishtira go to meet Bhishma?	To seek his blessings.
113	Who was Indra's wife?	Shachi.
114	How had the Kauravas arranged their army on the thirteenth day?	Chakravyuha, the wheel formation. In this formation the army was arranged in circles within circles.
115	On the bank of which river is Ayodhya?	Sarayu.
116	How did Ganga get the name Jahnvi?	River Ganga came down to earth and submerged the hermitage of Sage Jahnu. Angry at this, Jahnu drank up the river, but later, at the request of Bhagiratha, pushed Ganga out through his ear. From him Ganga got the name Jahnvi.
117	In which disguise did Indra approach to seek the armour (Kavacha) and earrings (Kundala) of Kama?	In the guise of a Brahmin.
118	What was the name assumed by Yudhishtira in Virata's palace?	Kanka.

119	Who was Ravana's wife?	Mandodari.
120	What was the name of Mandodari's father?	She was the daughter of Maya.
121	Who was the family priest of the Pandavas?	Dhoumya.
122	What was the name of the Rakshasi, whose mouth Hanuman enters en route to Lanka?	Surasa.
123	To whom does Sugriva assign the task of mustering the monkey forces?	Nala.
124	Why did Kacha go to Shukracharya's place?	To know the secret of immortality.
125	In which Upanishad would you find the dialogue between Nachiketa and Yama?	Kathopanishad.
126	Whom did Dasharatha send to fetch Rama to Kaikeyi's palace?	Sumantra, the minister.
127	Who goes to the court of the Kauravas as the ambassador of the Pandavas?	Krishna.
128	Why did Duryodhana construct a palace in Varanavata for the stay of the Pandavas?	The palace was made of shellac and other combustible material. Duryodhana wanted to burn the Pandavas alive.
129	Who were Babhruvahana's parents?	Chitrangada and Arjuna.
130	On the bank of which river is Chitrakoot?	River Mandakini.
131	When Hanuman thought it was difficult to leap to Lanka, who built his self-confidence?	Jambavan.
132	Of which kingdom was Chitrangada the princess?	Manipur.
133	How did Dhritarashtra, Gandhari and Kunti die?	They died in a forest fire.
134	Who performed the funeral rites of Jatayu?	Rama.
135	What was the name of the kingdom from where Bharata returned after Dasharatha's death?	Kekaya, the kingdom of his maternal uncle.
136	Who sends a man to dig a tunnel in the Shellac palace at Varanavata to help the Pandavas?	Vidura.
137	On which mountain did Hanuman rest when he made the leap to Lanka?	Mainaka.
138	Who taught Duryodhana how to wield a mace?	Balarama.
139	Who was the mother of Dhritarashtra?	Ambika.

- 140 Who killed Kumbhakarna? Rama.
- 141 How many Puranas are there? Though there are a number of puranas, according to tradition, only 18 puranas are recognised.
- 142 When Drona held a test in archery in a field outside Hastinapura, what was the target? The head of a wooden bird hanging from a branch of a tree. (In common folklore it is referred to as the eye of the bird).
- 143 Who was Dhruva's mother? Suniti.
- 144 Who first gives the news to Bharata about Rama's arrival from Lanka? Hanuman.
- 145 What was the name of Ahalya's husband? Sage Gautama.
- 146 Where does the marriage of Arjuna and Subhadra take place? Dwaraka.
- 147 What was the name of the sage who prevented the Vindhya Mountains from rising higher? Sage Agastya.
- 148 In which vehicle did Rama, Lakshmana and Sita return to Ayodhya from Lanka? Pushpaka vimana.
- 149 Which animals were yoked to the Pushpaka Vimana? Golden Swans.
- 150 Kushasthali was another name of a famous city on the west coast. What was the name of this city? Dwaraka.
151. Who advises Duryodhana (and Dhritarashtra) to give half the kingdom to the Pandavas after their marriage to Draupadi? Bhishma.
152. After whom is our country named Bharat? After Bharata, son of Shakuntala.
153. What was the name of King Raghu's wife? Indumati.
154. Who was the mother of Maricha? Tataka,
155. What was the vehicle of Kama? Parrot.
156. What was the name of King Raghu's father? Dilipa.
157. Who was the wife of King Dilipa? Sudakshina.
158. Who was Sushena, mentioned in the Ramayana? The Royal Physician.
159. On the bank of which river was the ashram of Valmiki? On the bank of River Tamasa.
160. Who gave the day-to-day account of the Battle of Kurukshetra to Dhritarashtra? On the bank of River Tamasa.
161. Who did Duryodhana appoint as Bhishma's bodyguard during the battle of Kurukshetra? Dushshasana.

162. What were the names of the wives of Vichitravirya? Ambika and Ambalika.
163. For how many days did Abhimanyu fight in the Battle of Kurukshetra? Thirteen days.
164. When all his weapons were destroyed, with what did Abhimanyu fight? The wheel of his chariot.
165. When Krishna goes to Hastinapura, with whom does he stay? Vidura.
166. How was Kunti related to Krishna? Aunt (Krishna's father's sister).
167. Where did Krishna reveal his divine form to Arjuna? On the battlefield of Kurukshetra.
168. What was the colour of Arjuna's horses? White.
169. What was the name of Sage Agastya's wife? Lopamudra.
170. What was the name of Rukmini's brother? Rukmi.
171. How does Duryodhana win over Shalya, the maternal uncle of Nakula and Sahadeva, to his side? By establishing rest houses all along the way to Kurukshetra and providing hospitality to Shalya and his retinue. Having accepted Duryodhana's hospitality Shalya could not refuse his request to fight against the Pandavas.
172. How many chapters are there in the Gita? Eighteen.
173. During the battle with Ravana, Lakshmana, Sugriva and other monkeys fell unconscious because of the Nagas released by Indrajit. Who did Shri Rama call to revive the unconscious heroes? Garuda.
174. What was the Yajna performed by Yudhishtira, after the Battle of Kurukshetra? Ashwamedha.
175. Bharata's mother was Shakuntala. Who was his father? Dushyanta.
176. Who were Ghatotkacha's parents? Hidimba and Bhima.
177. How was Kripacharya related to Ashwatthama? His maternal uncle.
178. Who was Kubera's father? Sage Vishrava.
179. Who was killed by Kama using the weapon, Shakti or Amogha? Ghatotkacha.
180. What was the name of Arjuna's son from Uloopi? Iravan.
181. What was the colour of Bhishma's flag? White.
182. What was the objective of Vishwamitra in performing severe austerities? He wanted to become a Brahmarshi (Brahma + Rishi).
183. On the bank of which lake was the ashram of Shabari? Lake Pampa.
184. After Rama lays siege to Lanka, whom does he send as his ambassador? Angada.
185. How many sons did Draupadi have? Five.
186. Krishna had vowed not to take up any weapon during the battle of Kurukshetra. Who made Krishna take up a weapon? Bhishma.

187. Who was the father of Subhadra? Vasudeva.
188. What was the name of Arjuna's conch-shell? Devadatta.
189. Who was the founder of the dynasty of Ayodhya in which Rama was born? Ikshvaku.
190. To which dynasty did Kartaviryarjuna belong? Hehaya.
191. What was the capital of Kartaviryarjuna? Mahishmati.
192. Who was the guru of Dasharatha? Vasishtha.
193. What was the name of Prahlada's father? Hiranyakashipu.
194. How did Ganga get the name Bhagirathi? Because Bhagiratha brought her down from heaven.
195. Who tried to send Trishanku to heaven in his bodily form? Vishwamitra.
196. Who killed Kartaviryarjuna? Parashurama.
197. Who was the guru of Janaka? Shatananda.
198. How did Parvati come to be called Apama? To win over Shiva, Parvati practised great austerities and lived without eating even a leaf. (Parna means leaf and Aparna means without even a leaf.)
199. Who killed the sons of Draupadi after entering the Pandava camp at night on the eighteenth day? Ashwatthama.
200. For how many days was Kama the commander of the Kaurava army? Two Days.
201. Who sends a chariot to Rama during the war with Ravana? Indra.
202. Who accompanies Dasharatha when he visits the Devas to help them in the war against the Asuras? Kaikeyi.
203. Who was the father of Jamadagni? Richika.
204. Who was Parashurama's father? Jamadagni.
205. What did Vamana ask from King Bali? Land equivalent to his three paces. With one pace he measured the earth. With the second pace he measured the heaven and asked Bali where should he place his third pace. Ball asked Vamana to place his foot on his, Ball's, head.
206. What was the name assumed by Nala when he was transformed into an ugly Dwarf? Bahuka.
207. Who was the king of Mahishmati who had defeated Ravana? Kartaviryarjuna. (Also known as Sahasrarjuna)
208. Who was the mother of Yadu? Devayani.
209. What does Shiva do when Ravana tries to lift Kailasa? He presses it down with his toe.
210. On the battlefield when Bhishma fell, how did Arjuna provide him a bed? By shooting a few arrows into the ground.
211. What was the name of Krishna's conch-shell? Panchajanya.

- 212 When Bhishma wanted to drink water while lying on a bed of arrows during the battle of Kurukshetra, who fulfilled his wish? Arjuna provided the water by shooting an arrow deep into the ground.
- 213 What job did Bhima do at Virata's palace? Cook.
- 214 From whom does Ravana seize control of Lanka? From his step-brother, Kubera (also known as Vaishravana).
- 215 Who inspired Valmiki to sing of Rama? Narada.
- 216 Who were Pradyumna's parents? Rukmini and Krishna.
- 217 Why doesn't Rama enter Lanka for the coronation ceremony of Vibhishana? Since Rama had been exiled to the forests, he did not think it fit to bring a break in the period of exile by entering the capital city.
- 218 Why did Sage Kanva name the child of Menaka as Shakuntala? Because he saw Shakunta birds (peacocks) gathered around the child.
- 219 Who tries to prevent Hanuman from entering when he makes the leap to Lanka and reaches the city wall? Lanka Lakshmi also called Lanka Devi. She was the guardian deity of the city,
- 220 What was the name of the mountain on which Arjuna performed tapas to please Shiva? Indrakeela.
- 221 Name two generals in the monkey army. Nala, Neela, Jambavan.
- 222 Who told Bhima how to kill Jarasandha? Krishna.
- 223 What was the vehicle of Shiva? Nandi, the bull.
- 224 Who was the mother of Ganesha? Parvati.
- 225 How does Ganesha get the head of an elephant? Shiva cuts off Ganesha's head. When Parvati sees this, she feels very upset. She insists on bringing him back to life immediately. Shiva replaces Ganesha's lost head with that of an elephant.
- 226 What happened when Hiranyakashipu kicked the pillar in his palace? Out of the pillar emerged Narasimha - Vishnu in the form of man-lion.
- 227 Where did Krishna shift his people from Mathura? Dwaraka.
- 228 Where in modern India is Prabhasa, a place of pilgrimage in ancient days, where the Yadavas fought among themselves? In Saurashtra on the west coast.
- 229 When the Pandavas handed over the Kingdom to Parikshit, whom did they entrust with the task of guiding the king? Yuyutsu.
- 230 Why did Krishna want to kill Kaliya? Kaliya had poisoned the water of Yamuna, as a result of which even trees on its banks dried up and many human lives were lost.
- 231 Jamadagni had something which Sahasrarjuna wanted. What was it? The cow - Kamadhenu.
- 232 How many brothers did Ravana have? His two brothers were Vibhishana and Kumbhakarna. He had a half brother named Kubera. (Khara and Dushana are also referred to as brothers in some texts.)

- 233 What was the relationship of Maricha and Ravana? Maricha was the maternal uncle of Ravana.
- 234 Where did Dushyanta and Shakuntala meet? In the hermitage of Sage Kanva.
- 235 Where did Luv and Kush narrate the story of Rama (Ramayana)? At the court of Rama.
- 236 What did an Akshauhini consist of? An Akshauhini consisted of 21,870 chariots, equal number of elephants, 65,160 horses and 1,09,350 soldiers.
- 237 Who was Aghasura? Aghasura was a huge serpent who was waiting for Krishna to enter his mouth, so that he could swallow him.
- 238 How did Krishna kill Aghasura? After entering the mouth of Aghasura, Krishna became bigger and bigger, suffocating the wicked Asura. This also helped the cowherds to safely come out of the dead Aghasura's mouth.
- 239 Who were the twins among the Pandavas? Nakula and Sahadeva.
- 240 When the Pandavas had gone on a hunting expedition, the barking of one of their hunting dogs was silenced by seven arrows, stuck in its mouth. When Arjuna saw this, he was dumbfounded at the skill of the archer. Identify the archer. Ekalavya. Genealogy of Rama:
- The genealogy of Rama is traced to Vishnu, h Ragkuvamsham, Kalidasa gives a great account q, Dilipa - Raghu - Aja - Dasharatha.
- 241 Who burnt the 60,000 sons of Sagara? SageKapila.
- 242 When Rama and Lakshmana are injured who ordered Hanuman to bring the herbs needed to relieve them? Sushena.
- 243 Why did Dushyanta forget Shakuntala? When Sage Durvasa visited Kanva's ashram, Shakuntala was lost in the thoughts of Dushyanta. He cursed her, "May he forget you, in whose memory you are now lost." (It must be noted however that the original version in the Mahabharata does not mention this. This version is found in Abhijnana Shakuntalam by Kalidasa.)
- 244 How did Savitri trick Yama to bring her husband back to life? She asked for a hundred sons. After granting that boon, Yama had to give back the life of Satyavan.
- 245 Who was Dyumatsena? He was Satyavan's father.
- 246 How much portion of the kheer got from Putrakameshti Yajna did Dasharatha give Kausalya? Half the portion.
- 247 In whose ashram did Rama meet Shabari? Sage Matanga.
- 248 What was the name of Kamsa's father? Ugrasena.
- 249 Where did Arjuna meet Subhadra for the first time? InDwaraka.
- 250 How did Krishna come to be called Ranchod (the one who shunned the battle)? Because he avoided giving battle to Jarasandha and went to Dwaraka from Mathura alongwith his people.
- 251 After Lakshmana chops off Shurpanakha's nose, to whom does she go? To Khara and Dushana.
- 252 What was the capital of the Kaurava's kingdom? Hastinapura.



- 253 What is the modern name for Indraprastha? Delhi.
- 254 What were the names of Subhadra's brothers? Krishna and Balarama.
- 255 What caused the outburst of the first shloka uttered by Valmiki? Once while returning from River Tamasa, Valmiki saw a hunter shooting down one of a pair of Krauncha birds. The other bird cried piteously. The intense emotion created by this incident made Valmiki speak in verses. Immediately Brahma appeared and advised Valmiki to write the story of Rama.
- 256 Where is Kurukshetra? In modern Haryana, about 40 kilometres to the north of Delhi.
- 257 What are the four yugas, according to Indian Mythology? a) Krita yuga.  
b) Treta yuga.  
c) Dwapara yuga.  
d) Kali yuga.
- 258 Vasudeva and Devaki were in prison at the time of Krishna's birth. How could Vasudeva get out of prison and take baby Krishna to Gokul? Vasudeva found to his surprise that his fetters and chains had fallen off. The prison doors automatically opened and the guards were all asleep. This enabled him to walk out of the prison and go to Gokul.
- 259 Rukmini was in love with Krishna. However her brother Rukmi, wanted to give her hand in marriage to another king. Identify this king. Shishupala.
- 260 Why did Drona want to humiliate Drupada? Because when Drona had sought Drupada's help, he had been humiliated.
- 261 How did Arjuna kill Kama? When Kama was trying to lift the wheel of his chariot, which had sunk in the mud, Arjuna shot him.
- 262 Who killed Vritra? Indra.
- 263 Why did Kamsa want to kill Krishna? There had been a prediction that Devaki's eighth child would kill him. Therefore he wanted to kill the eighth child.
- 264 Who carried the message of Nala to Damayanti? A swan with golden wings.
- 265 Why were Luv and Kush required to fight Rama's army? Because they had tied the horse of the Ashwamedha sacrifice.
- 266 Where did Luv and Kush grow up? In Valmiki's Ashram.
- 267 Where did Krishna first meet Sudama? In Guru Sandipani's ashram.
- 268 Why had Sudama gone to Dwaraka? To seek Krishna's help.
- 269 Why did Rama get angry with Sagara? Because he didn't prepare a way for Rama to reach Lanka.
- 270 How many Akshauhini's of army did the Kauravas have before the battle of Kurukshetra? Eleven akshauhini's. The Pandavas had seven akshauhini's.
- 271 Who incited Ravana to fight with Rama? Shurpanakha.

- 272 Who in the Mahabharata, is also known as Matsyagandha? Satyawati, wife of King Shantanu.
- 273 What is Bhagavad-Gita? It means the song sung by the Lord. It consists of the dialogue between Krishna and Arjuna on the battlefield of Kurukshetra.
- 274 From whom did Dronacharya learn the use of weapons? From his father, Sage Bharadwaja and later also from the hermit, Agnivesha.
- 275 Who gave divine weapons to Dronacharya? Parashurama.
- 276 Who told the monkey army that he had seen Ravana carrying Sita across the ocean? The vulture, Sampati.
- 277 Who was the charioteer of Kama, when he became the commander of the Kaurava army? Shalya.
- 278 How did Hanuman protect himself from the jaws of Surasa? Hanuman began to increase his size, Surasa opened her jaws wider and wider. Suddenly Hanuman reduced himself to the size of a thumb, entered her mouth and came out in a flash.
- 279 When Vishwamitra was taking Rama and Lakshmana to the court of Janaka they came upon an Ashrama, which contained a stone. What happened when Rama's feet touched the stone? Ahalya came back to life.
- 280 What was the name of the elephant that blocked the entrance of the wrestling arena when Krishna came near it and tried to kill him? Kuvalayapida.
- 281 Who was Balarama's wife? Revati. She was the daughter of Revata, king of Kushasthali. It is said in the puranas that Revata went with his daughter to Brahma with a request that he suggest a suitable groom for her. Thousands of years had lapsed between the time Revata left for the abode of Brahma and returned to earth. Men were of far less height. Balarama used his plough to reduce the height of Revati and then married her.
- 282 Whom did Krishna send to convey the importance of love and devotion in life to the gopis of Vrindavan? Uddhava, a minister and friend of Krishna.
- 283 What was the name of the demon who came in the guise of an ass to kill Krishna? Dhenukasura.
- 284 Who had sent Bakasura to Vrindavan to kill Krishna? Kamsa.
- 285 When the cowherds started worshipping Govardhan instead of him what did Indra do? He sent heavy rains to Gokula intending to submerge it in water.
- 286 Who conducted the naming ceremony of Krishna? Sage Gargacharya.
- 287 How did Krishna save his cowherd friends from the raging fire, after he had subdued Kaliya? When Krishna came out of the river Yamuna after suppressing the serpent, Kaliya, it was late and the sun had set. Yadavas spent the night near the river. Suddenly a fire broke out and enveloped them. Krishna swallowed the fire and all was quiet again.
- 288 For how many days did Krishna uphold Mount Govardhan on his finger? Seven days.
- 289 How old was Krishna when he held aloft the Govardhan Mountain? Seven years.
- 290 Who was the mother of Indrajit? Mandodari.
- 291 Who freed Nanda from the coils of a python? Krishna.
- 292 Who told the Yadavas that Krishna and Balarama were in reality the children of Vasudeva? Gargacharya.

- 293 What was the original name of Indraprastha, before the Pandavas began to rule over it? Khandavaprastha.
- 294 Who killed Mushtika? Balarama.
- 295 Krishna preferred a particular colour for his robes. Which was it? Yellow. (Pitambara)
- 296 What form did Keshi, the demon assume to kill Krishna? That of a horse.
- 297 How did Krishna kill Keshi? He thrust his left arm into the open mouth of the demon. His arm began to swell inside Keshi's mouth. The demon suffocated and died.
- 298 Which bird's feather was Krishna fond of placing on his head? Peacock.
- 299 What did Krishna do after killing Kamsa? He requested Ugrasena to take charge of the kingdom.
- 300 What was the name of the humpback who met Krishna on the main road of Mathura? Trivakra.
301. To whom did the [women](#) of Vrindavan offer prayers? Durga
302. How did Krishna get the name Murari? Murari literally means: - Enemy of Mura. Krishna killed Mura, a demon, in a battle.
- 303 What was the name of Nanda's wife? Yashoda.
- 304 Who was the wife of Bharata (of the Raghu dynasty)? Mandavi, Sita's cousin.
- 305 Who saved Takshaka from Janamejaya's sarpasatra? SageAstika.
- 306 Of which kingdom was Jayadratha, the king? Sindhu.
- 307 In addition to Jarasandha's army, what was the army the Yadavas had to face? Kalayavana's army.
- 308 Why did Shiva bum Kamadeva? Because he disturbed the serenity of Shiva's mind.
- 309 What was the name of Jambavati's father? Jambavan.
- 310 Who killed Satrajit? Shatadhanwa.
- 311 According to tradition what time was Krishna bom? After midnight, when the star Rohini was on the ascendent, in the month of Shravana, on the day of Ashtami.
- 312 Who sent Akrura to Hastinapura to enquire about the Pandavas? Krishna.
- 313 How many times did Jarasandha attack Mathura? Eighteen.
- 314 Where did Krishna say, "I will be born again and again when there is decline of Dharma"?. Kurukshetra.

315	Who was the <a href="#">tutor</a> of Abhimanyu?	After his initial training from Arjuna, Abhimanyu was tutored by Pradyumna.
316	Who carried puva (Pohe i.e. beaten rice) to Krishna? And in return what did Krishna give to him?	Sudama. Krishna built a palace for him and filled that palace with wealth and gifts.
317	What was the name of the crane that picked Krishna and swallowed him?	Bakasura.
318	What did Krishna do to free himself from the crane?	He created unbearable heat and the crane spat him out.
319	What was the name of Savitri's father?	Ashwapati.
320	Who was the charioteer of Indra?	Matali.
321	What is the main philosophy of Gita?	Work for work's sake and not for any gain.
322	What strategy did Krishna suggest to Arjuna to defeat Drona?	They made Drona believe that his son, Ashwatthama had been killed. This led Drona to lay down his weapons thus enabling Dhrishtadyumna to kill him.
323	What was the musical instrument dear to Krishna?	Flute.
324	When did Kamsa free Vasudeva and Devaki?	After the birth of their eighth child.
325	Below which tree did Krishna usually play the flute?	Kadamba.
326	On which day of the battle of Kurukshetra did Krishna take up Sudarshan Chakra to slay Bhishma?	Ninth day.
327	Who was the father of Shakuni?	Subala.
328	When Kaliya coiled his body around Krishna, what did Krishna do?	Krishna made his body swell.
329	What are the four Vedas?	Rigveda, Yajurveda, Samaveda and Atharvaveda.
330	What constitutes Vedic literature?	The four Vedas mentioned above. Each of these four has four divisions: First come the Samhitas, then come Brahmana - a treatise relating to prayer and sacrificial ceremony. Next come the Aranyakas, forest texts meant for the forest-dwelling hermit. They are appendices to the Brahmanas. Fourth is Upanishads - appendices to Aranyakas. Together they constitute Vedic literature.
331	How many sala trees does Rama pierce with one	Seven.

arrow?

- 332 How did Kalayavana die? Muchukunda opened his eyes. And when his gaze fell on Kalayavana he turned into ashes.
- 333 Durvasa goes with his disciples to the place where the Pandavas were living. How does Krishna help Draupadi serve food to so many? Krishna visits the place and says that he is hungry. There is no food in the vessel, but Krishna sees a leaf and eats it. This makes Durvasa and his disciples feel they have eaten a full meal.
- 334 In which forest did the Pandavas spend most of their days during the exile? In Kamyaka forest.
- 335 From where did Krishna get the Parijata tree? Devaloka (Indra's palace).
- 336 Who were the parents of Aniruddha? Pradyumna (son of Krishna) and Rukmavati.
- 337 Who was instrumental in kidnapping Aniruddha? Usha, daughter of Banasura.
- 338 From whom did Krishna get the earrings of Aditi? Narakasura. Krishna killed him in battle and got back the earrings.
- 339 When Dushshasana was pulling and removing the sari of Draupadi who made her sari endless? Krishna.
- 340 Both Duryodhana and Arjuna had gone to seek Krishna's help. Whom did Krishna give the first choice? Arjuna, since Krishna had seen him before seeing Duryodhana.
- 341 Why was Jarasandha angry at Krishna? Because Krishna had killed the husbands of his two daughters.
- 342 When Sugriva brought Sita's jewellery from the cave what did Lakshmana say? "I do not recognize the bracelet and earring, but I know these anklets for I worshipped her feet alone."
- 343 How did Jambavan encourage Hanuman to jump across the ocean to Lanka? By narrating Hanuman's acts of strength and bravery in his early life.
- 344 How was Krishna related to Abhimanyu? Abhimanyu was his nephew (sister's son).
- 345 Why did Arjuna take the vow that he would kill Jayadratha before sunset the next day? Because Jayadratha had prevented the Pandavas from entering the Chakravyuha (the wheel formation of the army). This enabled the Kauravas to kill Abhimanyu who had breached the Chakravyuha all alone.
- 346 When did Varuna give the Sudarshana Chakra to Krishna? At Agni's request Varuna gave the Sudarshana Chakra to Krishna to help him in the burning of the Khandava forest. (According to another version Vishwakarma gave the weapon to Vishnu).
- 347 Name the fabulous city constructed by Vishwakarma on top of the mountain Trikuta? Lanka.

348	When Duryodhana crowns Karna as the king of Anga, what does he say?	Kama asks, "What can I do in return for the honour bestowed on me?" Duryodhana replied, "Your staunch friendship."
349	It was once suspected that Krishna was a thief. What was he accused of stealing?	Syamantaka gem.
350	Who had given the Syamantaka gem to Satrajit?	Surya.
351	When Dhritarashtra met the Pandavas, how did he try to kill Bhima?	By holding him close to his chest and crushing him. Krishna, however, had placed a statue of Bhima in front of him.
352	Who killed Prasena, the brother of Satrajit?	A lion.
353	To which deity did Rukmini pray?	Goddess Parvati.
354	Who kidnapped Pradyumna when he was just ten years old?	Shambara.
355	Which was the vehicle used by Krishna when he went with Satyabhama to give battle to Narakasura?	Garuda.
356	What is the name of the serpent on which Vishnu rests?	Maha Shesha.
357	Who leaves Sita near the ashram of Valmiki?	Lakshmana.
358	Who was the mother of Shatrughna?	Sumitra.
359	When Yudhishtira goes away to the forest to lead a peaceful life whom does he crown as the King?	Parikshit.
360	What food did Shabari offer Rama?	Berries.
361	Who was the son of Parikshit?	Janamejaya.
362	Why did Janamejaya conduct the Sarpasatra (Yajna to annihilate sarpas/nagas)?	A sarpa (serpent) had killed his father, Parikshit. To avenge his death Janamejaya performed the sarpasatra (Yajna) to bring about total annihilation of the race of nagas (sarpas).
363	What was the name of the place ruled by Sugriva?	Kishkindha.
364	Who taught Arjuna singing and dancing?	Chitrasena taught dance and music to Arjuna when Arjuna went to Devaloka.
365	Who taught Uttara to dance?	Aijuna.
366	Who brought back to life the dead child of	Krishna.

Uttara?

- 367 In the game of dice whom did Yudhishtira lose first: Draupadi or himself? Himself.
- 368 Where did Bhima meet Hanuman? Gandhamadana.
- 369 What are the names by which Kamadhenu is referred as? Surabhi and also Nandini.
- 370 How did Parvati create Ganesha? Parvati created Ganesha from the saffron paste on her body.
- 371 Who was the father of Veda Vyasa? Sage Parashara.
- 372 What was the name of India's son? Jayanta.
- 373 How was the beginning of any battle signalled in the days of the Mahabharata? By blowing conches.
- 374 Where was the hermitage of Sage Bharadwaja? At Prayag (modern Allahabad).
- 375 Why did Sati burn herself? Her husband, Shiva, had been insulted and abused by her father.
- 376 Why is Arjuna referred to as Kapidhwaja? Because on his flag was the image of Hanuman. Kapidhwaja literally means monkey (kapi) banner (dhwaja).
- 377 Why did Nanda and the cowherds decide to move away from Gokul and settle down in Vrindavan? The mysterious happenings in Gokul in which Krishna, the beloved son of their leader had been involved, made them shift to a safer place.
- 378 What was the feat performed by Dronacharya, which impressed the Kuru princes? He took a blade of grass and threw it with force at the Vishti in the well. Then he threw the second blade of grass which got attached to the first one. He kept on doing it till he could reach out to the top one and pulled it out. Vishti-Danda was an ancient form of the game which is called Gilli-Danda.
- 379 When Duryodhana, Shakuni and Kama wanted to arrest Krishna, what did he do? He showed his Vishwarupa.
- 380 When Jarasandha heard from his daughters about the killing of Kamsa, what vow did he take? "I will not rest till I wipe out the entire race of the Yadavas."
- 381 When the Devas, Danavas and Manavas went to Brahma to know the secret of happiness what did he say? "Da": - The suras thought that by "Da" Brahma meant "Damyata" (meaning, exercise self-control), the asuras thought by "Da" Brahma meant "Dayadhwam" (be merciful) and the humans thought by "Da" Brahma meant "Dadhatu" (give).
- 382 Who was the mother of Veda Vyasa? Satyawati.

383	Kubera the lord of wealth ruled his kingdom from this fabulously wealthy city. What was the name of the city?	Alakapuri.
384	When Rama was in exile, Bharata ruled over Ayodhya in his brother's name. Name the village from where he ruled as Rama's deputy.	Nandigram.
385	After abducting Sita, Ravana kept her confined in the Ashoka grove. Among the rakshasis who guarded her, only two were friendly to her. Name them.	Sarama and Trijata.
386	Who was the Commander-in-Chief of the Pandavas during the battle of Kurukshetra?	Dhrishtadyumna.
387	Who were the stepbrothers of Bhishma?	Chitrangada and Vichitravirya.
388	Who was the sage who cursed Vali that his head would blow up if he ever entered Rishyamooka again?	Rishi Matanga.
389	What is the origin of the word Varanasi?	The name Varanasi originated from two rivers "Varana" and "Asi".
390	Which was the capital of Videha?	Mithila. King Janaka ruled over the kingdom of Videha.
391	What was the colour of Indra's elephant, Airavata?	White.
392	Who tried to win over Kama to the Pandava's side?	Krishna and Kunti.
393	Who was the brother of Maricha who was killed by Rama?	Subahu.
394	What was the name of Sage Rishyashringa's wife?	Shanta.
395	Who was the twin brother of Lakshmana?	Shatrughna.
396	What was the name of the kingdom ruled by Nala?	Nishadha.
397	Why did Sage Agastya drink the water of the ocean?	Because the evil Kalakeyas had hidden at the bottom of the ocean. Agastya drank the water so that the devas (suras) could destroy them.
398	Why does Sugriva request Rama to pierce any of the Sala trees with his arrow?	He wanted to assure himself that Rama was more powerful than Vali.
399	Who killed the demon Kalanemi?	Hanuman.



400	When did the Pandavas come to know that Kama was their brother?	After the battle of Kurukshetra when obsequies were to be offered to the dead ones, Kunti tells everyone that Kama was her son.
401	Shwetaketu was very proud of his knowledge. What did his father, Uddalaka, do to help his son get rid of the pride? And what was the reply given by Shwetaketu?	Uddalaka called his son to his side and asked, "By studying all about the things you can see, hear and understand, you think you are knowledgeable. But have you learnt about that which you cannot see and hear." To this Shwetaketu replied "No, father! I do not know anything about that."
402	To whom did the Pushpaka-vimana originally belong?	Kubera.
403	How many tusks did Airavata have?	Four.
404	How much land was Duryodhana prepared to give to the Pandavas?	Nothing. Not even a needlepoint of land.
405	Why did Ravana ask the rakshasis to escort Sita to the battlefield?	To see the unconscious Rama.
406	Who was the warrior who was said to have been born to kill Drona?	Dhristadyumna.
407	What was the name of the tree present in Indraloka that had the power of providing any object asked of it?	Kalpavriksha.
408	From where did King Sagara rule?	Ayodhya.
409	Who was the mother of the Devas?	Aditi.
410	Where did the Pandavas live soon after the completion of their period of staying incognito?	At Upaplavya in Virata's kingdom.
411	What were the four boons granted by Yama to Savitri?	a. The sight of her blind father-in-law to be restored, b. The kingdom of her father-in-law to be restored c. 100 sons to be born to her father so that the family line could be continued d. 100 sons to be born to her of Satyavan.
412	Who was the chief minister of Ravana who was killed by Vibhishana in the battle against Sri Rama?	Prahasta.
413	Who were the two wives of Pandu?	Kunti and Madri.
414	How did Krishna get the name Damodara?	Dama means rope. Udara means abdomen. When Krishna was yet a child, he was tied to a mortar with

a rope. He dragged the mortar and tried to pass through the space between two trees. The mortar got stuck and when Krishna tugged at the rope the trees got uprooted and Krishna became free.

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| 415 | On the bank of which river is Panchavati?   | Godavari.   |
| 416 | According to the Puranas where is the abode of Shiva?   | Mount Kailasa.  |
| 417 | What was Kama's bow called?   | Vijaya.   |
| 418 | What was the name of the mountain that was used to churn the Ocean of Milk?   | Mandara.  |
| 419 | With what words did Gandhari bless Duryodhana during the battle of Kurukshetra?   | Victory is where Dharma is. (Yato dharmastato jaya).  |
| 420 | Where did Duryodhana hide towards the end of the eighteenth day of the battle of Kurukshetra?   | Inside a lake.  |
| 421 | Who accompanies the Pandavas and Draupadi on their journey to Swarga?   | Yama in the guise of a dog.   |
| 422 | What is the name of Ganesha's brother?  | Karttikeya.   |
| 423 | Drona imparted the knowledge of the 'Brahma Shiras' to Arjuna. What was the incident that pleased Drona to such an extent that he did so? | Once while bathing in the Ganga, Drona encountered a crocodile that bit into his legs and held on to it. Of all the disciples who were with him only Arjuna moved forward and killed the crocodile. This pleased Drona. |
| 424 | What are the four stages of a man's life, according to tradition?   | Brahmacharya, Grahasthya, Vanaprastha, and Sanyasa.   |
| 425 | According to the Vana Parva five people could be considered as a person's guru. Who are they?   | Father, Mother, Agni, Atman and Guru.   |
| 426 | Who were Indra's parents?   | Kashyapa and Aditi.   |
| 427 | Who created the rift between Sunda and Upasunda?  | Tilottama.  |
| 428 | Who gave the akshayapatra to Yudhishtira?   | Surya.  |
| 429 | Anjalikavedha was an art by which the practitioner could subdue an elephant. Who among the Pandavas had mastered this art?                | Bhima.  |
| 430 | After Sri Rama had captured Lanka, who was the Asura who led Sita to him?   | Avindhya.   |
| 431 | What is the meaning of Pundarikaksha?   | Lotus eyed.   |

432	Ekalavya cut the thumb of his right hand as the guru dakshina for Drona. What did Arjuna, Drona's favourite pupil, offer as a guru dakshina?	Arjuna defeated Drupada, the king of Panchala and brought him bound to Drona.
433	Who killed Tataka?	Rama.
434	Who killed Akampana in the battle at Lanka?	Hanuman.
435	Veda Vyasa wrote the Mahabharata. His son was also erudite and was responsible for spreading the knowledge of the Mahabharata. What was his name?	Shuka.
436	What was in the possession of Indravarma, the king of Malava that helped in the slaying of Drona in the battle of Kurukshetra?	An elephant named Ashwatthama. Bhima killed this elephant and announced that Ashwatthama was dead. At this Drona lay down his arms and was slayed.
437	Marichi, Angiras, Atri, Pulastya, Pulaha, Kratu and Vasishtha are the sons of Brahma. What are they called collectively?	Saptarshis (Seven rishis).
438	What was the name of Sage Atri's wife?	Anasuya.
439	What was the vehicle of the Aswini Kumars?	Donkey.
440	In whose ashram did Shakuntala grow up?	The ashram of Kanva.
441	King Bali was the grandson of an ardent devotee of Vishnu. Who was his grandfather?	Prahlada.
442	Chyavana was an old and blind sage. By whom was his youth and eyesight restored?	Ashwini Kumar(s).
443	Parikshit was living in a closely guarded tower. How could a serpent bite him?	Takshaka entered a fruit in the shape of a worm and this was taken to the king by a Naga in the guise of a Brahmin.
444	Why did Balarama choose to remain neutral in the battle of Kurukshetra?	Though Duryodhana sought Balarama's help he refused to side with the Kauravas saying that he could not forsake Krishna.
445	Who was known for his bad temper among the rishis?	Durvasa.
446	After he was crowned king, from whom did Yudhishtira seek instructions in state craft?	From Bhishma, who was lying on a bed of arrows.
447	On whose side did Bhagadatta fight in the battle of Kurukshetra?	On the side of the Kauravas.
448	During the Pandava's exile why did Bhima go to the Gandhamadana Mountain?	To get the Saugandhika flowers for Draupadi.

449	Who was the Nishada King who rowed Rama, Ska and Lakshmana across the river Ganga when they were on their way into the forests?	Guha.
450	How did Kama's slaying of Ghatotkacha help the Pandavas?	Karna used the Shakti to kill Ghatotkacha. This was the weapon Karna could use only once. Therefore he had reserved it against Arjuna. Since Karna used it against Ghatotkacha, Arjuna was saved.
451	Amba, one of the daughters of the king of Kashi vowed to take revenge on Bhishma because she blamed him for her sorry plight. After receiving a boon from Shiva, she was reborn and in that birth was instrumental in killing Bhishma. Who was she reborn as?	Shikhandi.
452	What were the names of Harishchandra's wife and son?	Chandramati (sometimes referred to as Taramati) and Lohitashva (Rohitashva)
453	Over which kingdom did Harishchandra rule?	Ayodhya.
454	Who built the palace for Yama?	Vishwakarma.
455	How was Jarasandha related to Kamsa?	He was the father-in-law of Kamsa.
456	Who told Janamejaya that Parikshit had been bitten by Takshaka?	Sage Uttanka.
457	How was Shishupala related to Krishna?	They were cousins. Shishupala's mother, Shrutasrava was the sister of Krishna's father.
458	To whom did Shiva present the Pashupatastra?	Arjuna.
459	After Sugriva was driven away from Kishkindha by Vali where did he set up his kingdom?	Rishyamooka.
460	What was the name of Drona's wife?	Kripa.
461	Why is Krishna also called Keshava?	Because he killed the asura Keshi.
462	Before the battle of Kurukshetra Krishna promised his help to both the Kauravas and the Pandavas. How did he manage to keep his promise?	To the Kauravas he promised the help of his entire army. To the Pandavas, his personal help (without his taking up any weapons).
463	Who killed the asura Pralamba?	Balarama.
464	Where did Kunti stay when the Pandavas went into exile for 12 years?	With Vidura.
465	Who did Kama approach to learn the science of archery?	Parashurama.

466	There were two occasions when Parashurama met Krishna. One was when Krishna and Balarama went to Mount Gomanta. When was the other?	The second instance was when Krishna was on his way to the court of the Kauravas as the messenger of the Pandavas.
467	She was a demoness who dreamt about the destruction of Lanka by a monkey. Who was she?	Trijata.
468	Who was the guru of both Krishna and Balarama?	Sandipani.
469	Whose sons were Kumbha and Nikumbha?	Kumbhakarna.
470	Sanjaya was the person who narrated the course of the battle of Kurukshetra to Dhritharashtra. He was able to do so because he received a boon by which he could see the battle. When did this divine sight end?	After the death of Duryodhana.
471	What did Vishwamitra seek from Dasharatha?	He wanted Rama and Lakshmana to accompany him and help him to perform Yajnas peacefully.
472	The battle of Kurukshetra entailed tremendous destruction. Who was entrusted with the duty of reconstruction by Yudhishtira?	Sanjaya.
473	Vajranabha is a weapon used by Vishnu. It is however better known by another name. What is that name?	Sudarshana-Chakra.
474	How did Krishna help Arjuna in killing Jayadratha?	On hearing that Jayadratha was responsible for Abhimanyu's death Arjuna had vowed to kill him before sunset the next day. During the course of the battle Krishna hid the sun. Thinking that the sun had set, Jayadratha came out and moved freely. When Krishna released the sun, the sun shone again and Jayadratha was killed by Arjuna.
475	Who is the consort of Madana, the god of love?	Rati.
476	What was the name of the kingdom ruled by Dasharatha?	Kosala. Its capital was Ayodhya.
477	What happened when Rama strung the bow of Shiva at Janaka's palace (at the time of Sita's swayamvara)?	The bow broke into two pieces with a thunderous sound.
478	When did Parashurama meet Sri Rama?	When Rama and Lakshmana were on their way to Ayodhya after their marriage.
479	What did Parashurama want from Rama?	He sought to battle with Rama.
480	What was the task Parashurama set before Rama?	He gave Rama the great bow of Vishnu and wanted Rama to draw the bow.

481	Who poisoned the ears of Kaikeyi when the whole city was happy that Rama would soon be crowned king?	Manthara.
482	With what argument did Manthara convince Kaikeyi to seek the banishment of Rama?	The main point made by her was that Kausalya would become the Queen Mother. Kaikeyi would have to bow to her wishes.
483	When did Dasharatha give the boons to Kaikeyi?	In the course of a battle with Asuras, an arrow had hit him and he had fallen wounded. Sensing danger to his life Kaikeyi drove the chariot through the army of Asuras. Hence he granted her boons.
484	Who gave robes made of bark to Rama?	Kaikeyi.
485	Where did Rama, Lakshmana and Sita take their first rest after leaving Ayodhya?	On the bank of the river Tamasa.
486	What were the names assumed by Nakula and Sahadeva while living in disguise at the palace of Virata?	Granthika and Tantripala.
487	What was the real name of Kuchela, Krishna's boyhood friend?	Sudama.
488	Who suggested to Rama the place they could live in happiness? What was the name of the place?	Sage Bharadwaja suggested to Rama that they could live happily on Mount Chitrakoot.
489	Who first conveyed the news of Dasharatha's death to Rama?	Bharata.
490	Why did Bharata place Rama's sandals on the throne?	This was done as a symbol of Rama's authority who was away.
491	What was the name of the forest that Rama, Lakshmana and Sita went to from Chitrakoot?	Dandaka Forest.
492	What was the name of Parashurama's mother?	Renuka.
493	Why did Sage Kapila reduce the sons of Sagara to ashes?	They accused him of stealing the horse of the Ashwamedha Yajna.
494	Who was the Commander-in-chief of the armies of Jarasandha?	Shishupala.
495	What was the weapon of Indra?	Vajra, the thunderbolt.
496	What was the name of Vishwamitra's ashram?	Siddhashram.
497	What was the advice given by Maricha to Ravana when he spoke of his plan to carry away Sita?	Do not antagonise Rama.

498	Where was Sandipani's ashram?	Avanti.
499	With what instrument did Drona take out the ring, which was in the well?	With an arrow.
500	Give the name of any one son of Draupadi.	Prativindhya, Shrutasoma, Shrutakirti, Shrutasena (or Shrutakarma) and Shatanika.
501	What was the capital of Drupada's kingdom?	Kampilya.
502	Among the names of Bhudevi (Bhumidevi) is Kashyapi. Why is she known by this name?	Parashurama once gifted the whole earth to Sage Kashyapa. From this comes the name Kashyapi.
503	Who were the three children of Samjna from Surya?	Manu, Yama and Yami.
504	When Nachiketa asked for the secret of immortality, what did Yama reply?	"When all the desires- cherished by the mind cease, it is here and now that the mortal becomes immortal."
505	What was the name of Ashtavakra's father?	Kahodara (also known as Khagodara). The child, Ashtavakra was crooked in eight parts.
506	Which sage narrated the story of Sage Ashtavakra to the Pandavas?	Sage Lomasha.
507	Where in modern India is Panchavati?	Near Nasik in Maharashtra.
508	When the Gandharva King Chitrasena defeated the Kauravas and captured Duryodhana, what does Bhima do?	He feels very happy and dances for joy.
509	How does Yudhishtira rebuke Bhima for expressing happiness, when Duryodhana was captured by Chitrasena?	Yudhishtira says, "When we have our differences we are five and the Kauravas are a hundred, but when we are facing an outsider we should be a hundred and five."
510	Who succeeded to the throne of Hastinapura after the death of King Shantanu?	Chitrangada.
511	On which day of the battle of Kurukshetra did Kama start fighting for the Kauravas?	Eleventh day. He did not want to take up arms so long as Bhishma was the commander of the Kaurava army. Bhishma had insulted Kama as "Sutaputra" (son of a charioteer).
512	Yudhishtira was also called Ajatashatru. What did the name mean?	One without any enemy.
513	For which skill was Nala well-known?	Nala was a great charioteer.
514	How did Nala win back his Kingdom?	Nala played a game of dice with Pushkara and won it back.

515	Which was the kingdom of which Rukmini was the princess?	Vidarbha.
516	Who is the god of death according to Indian Mythology?	Yama.
517	Who was the mother of Lakshmana?	Sumitra.
518	What happened when Kamsa seized the baby from Devaki's hand and dashed her against a stone surface?	The Divine infant manifested herself as an eight-armed goddess and said, "Kamsa, the one who is destined to kill you still lives."
519	How did Hanuman convince Sita that he was a messenger of Rama?	Hanuman gave the ring Rama had given him to show to Sita.
520	Who was the family priest of the Yadavas?	Gargacharya.
521	When Vasudeva, holding the baby Krishna in his arms, reached the banks of the river Yamuna, what happened?	The river waters parted.
522	Whom did Kamsa send to Gokul to kill all newborn babies?	Putana.
523	What is sage Agastya known for?	He stamped the Vindhya Mountain down. He is also said to be the writer of Tamil grammar.
524	What was the picture on the flag of Krishna?	Garuda.
525	When the Devas and the Asuras churned the ocean of milk what did they want from the ocean?	Amrit, the divine nectar.
526	What is Alakananda?	A river, which flows through Devaloka (the land of Devas). After descending to earth it is called Ganga.
527	What was the first product that arose when the Ocean of Milk was churned?	Halahala, deadly poison. The message that is conveyed here is important. When we start churning our mind in search of truth what comes out of the churning are doubts, despair, etc. It is when we continue the churning that we receive knowledge that gives peace.
528	Why did Amba curse Bhishma?	Because he seized her by hand and wanted to carry her away to be wife of the Kuru princes.
529	The Pandavas had decided to construct a palace at Indraprastha. During this discussion who joined in and gave them the description of the courts of Indra, Yama, Varuna, Kubera and Brahma?	Narada.
530	For how many years was Rama banished to the	Fourteen years.



forest?

- 531 Who was the Guru of the Devas (gods)? Brihaspati.
- 532 Where did Hanuman find Sita in Lanka? In the Ashoka Vana (forest).
- 533 What was the musical instrument that was always carried by Narada? Veena.
- 534 What were the names of the sons of Madri? Nakula and Sahadeva.
- 535 Why did Hiranyakashipu want to kill his own son? Because Prahlada, his son had become a devotee of his arch enemy, Vishnu.
- 536 How did Krishna get the name Giridhari? Because he held Mount Govardhan on his little finger. [Giridhara literally means holder (dhara) of a mountain (giri)]
- 537 When Indra was unable to defeat the asura Vritrasura, he sought the advice of Brahma. Brahma's advice was to approach the son of sage Bhrigu and ask him for a bone from his body. This bone was to be converted into an astra that would kill the asura. Name the sage who donated his bone and thereby discarded his life so that the devas could triumph over the asuras. Sage Dadhichi.
- 538 Where did Bharata meet Rama after he set out from Ayodhya? At Chitrakoot.
- 539 Who were the Asuras? They were not much different from Suras (Devas), their cousins. According to one interpretation the word "Asura" is derived from 'Asu', which means 'life' and 'ra', which means 'engrossed in'. Hence those who are engrossed in life were called Asuras.
- 540 When Sita was presented garments made of bark before leaving for the forest who forbade her from wearing them and why? Vasishtha, because it was only Rama who had been banished.
- 541 Why is Draupadi also called Panchali? Because she was the daughter of the King of Panchala (not because she had five husbands.)
- 542 What was the capital of Vidarbha? Kundinapura.
- 543 What was the name of Jatayu's elder brother? Sampati.
- 544 Who was the commander of the Kaurava army after the death of Bhishma? Dronacharya.
- 545 Who is considered to be the architect of the Devas? Maya. Sometimes he is considered only as a

carpenter of the Asuras.

- 546 Where did Rama meet Sugriva? Kishkindha.
- 547 Where did Krishna teach the Gita to Arjuna? On the battlefield of Kurukshetra.
- 548 Why is Sita sometimes called Vaidehi? Because she was the daughter of the King of Videha.
- 549 Who was Dhumraksha, referred to in the Ramayana? A minister of Ravana.
- 550 Who was anointed as the heir apparent to the kingdom of Kishkindha after the battle of Lanka? Sugriva's son, Angada.
- 551 Who told Kamsa that Krishna and Balarama were, in reality, the sons of Vasudeva? Narada.
- 552 How was Dundubhi related to Ravana? He was Ravana's brother-in-law.
- 553 Who killed Dundubhi? Vali.
- 554 Who was crowned King of Lanka after Ravana's death? Vibhishana.
- 555 What was the name of the place where Rama meets Guha, the Nishada King? Shringaverapura.
- 556 How was Hanuman captured by Indrajit? Indrajit, the son of Ravana, used the Brahmastra to bind Hanuman.
- 557 On his return from Lanka where did Rama meet Bharata? Nandigrama.
- 558 What was the boon sought by Raktabija from Shiva? If one drop of his blood fell on the battlefield, many Raktabijas would arise from the blood and fight the enemy. It conveys the idea that violence begets more violence.
- 559 In the Ashoka grove when Ravana produces the head of Rama who assures Sita that it is not a real one? Sarama.
- 560 According to puranas who is holding the earth on their back? The eight elephants known as Diggajas.
- 561 How many verses are there in the Ramayana? About 24,000.
- 562 What was the name of the monkey general who supervised the construction of the bridge to Lanka? Nala.
- 563 Who drove the chariot in which Rama, Lakshmana, and Sita left for the forest after Rama was

banished?

- 564 Name the people who went to Magadha to subdue Jarasandha? Bhima, Arjuna and Krishna.
- 565 Where did Urmila live while her husband Lakshmana was keeping company of Rama in the forest? In Ayodhya, in the palace.
- 566 What was the name of Urmila's father? King Kushadhvaja.
- 567 When the Yaksha asked Yudhishthira what is the greatest wonder, what did he reply? Day after day countless people die, yet the living wish to live forever.
- 568 Who were the companions of Shakuntala in Kanva's ashram? Anasuya and Priyamvada.
- 569 Who killed Sunda and Upasunda? They fought with each other and got killed.
- 570 How was Shakuni related to Duryodhana? He was Duryodhana's mother's brother, his maternal uncle.
- 571 What kind of sacrifice was Vishwajit? At a Vishwajit sacrifice one has to give away everything he possesses.
- 572 How did Nahusha incur the anger of rishis? He made the rishis carry him in a Palanquin. He felt they were slow. -Hence shouting at them he said "Sarpa" (go fast). Hearing this Sage Agastya cursed him "Sarp Bhava" (be a serpent).
- 573 Who killed Tarakasura? Karttikeya.
- 574 What was the pseudonym assumed by Bhima at the palace of Virata? Ballava (sometimes referred to as Vallala)
- 575 How many horses were yoked to Arjuna's chariot? Four.
- 576 Who was the founder of the Yadava clan? Yadu, son of Yayati.
- 577 Which mountain was the abode of Sage Parashurama? Mount Mahendra.
- 578 Who were the three warriors in the Kaurava army who planned an attack on the sleeping Pandavas? Ashwatthama, Kripacharya and Kritavarma.
- 579 Who was the consort of Shiva? Parvati, also known as Shakti (strength). Through this concept it is communicated that the one who has strength alone can be Shiva (good).
- 580 What did Mt Mainaka tell Hanuman when he was en route to Lanka? "Your father once helped me. Rest here for a while."
- 581 In which disguise did Hanuman meet Rama? In the disguise of a Brahmin.

582	What was the threat Ravana held out to Sita?	"If you do not yield within two months my cook will mince your limbs for my morning meals."
583	On whose shoulders did Rama ride during the battle with Kumbhakama?	Hanuman.
584	In what disguise did Shiva appear before Parvati while she was performing penance?	In the disguise of a hermit.
585	What was the name of the bow of Shiva?	Pinaka.
586	What was the name of Ravana's father?	Vishrava.
587	What role did Trinavarta play in the life of Krishna?	Trinavarta assumed the form of a whirlwind and swooped the baby Krishna off and attempted to kill him.
588	What was the vehicle of Agni?	Male Goat.
589	Who occupied Duryodhana's palace after the battle of Kurukshetra?	Bhima.
590	What is said to be the vehicle of Yama, God of Death?	Buffalo.
591	He was the brother in law of Virata, King of Matsyadesha. He was killed by Bhima because he had molested Draupadi. Who was he?	Kichaka.
592	When devas and asuras were churning the ocean of milk a deva arose from it with a Kamandalu in one hand and a danda in the other. Who was he?	Dhanwantari, who is said to have taught ayurveda to the world.
593	Who was Yayati's father?	Nahusha.
594	Who killed Shikhandi?	Ashwatthama.
595	Who was the guru of Banasura?	Shukracharya.
596	Who was responsible for the origin of the land mass that we now know as Kerala?	Parashurama.
597	In which avatar did Lord Vishnu kill Hiranyakashipu?	Narasimha Avatar.
598	Kripacharya and his sister Kripa were abandoned as children. Who took pity on them and brought them up?	King Shantanu.
599	Who set fire to the camp of the Pandavas?	Kritavarma.
600	Who broke Ganesha's tusk?	Parashurama.



## **Folk Dances of India**

No.	Folk Dance	State
1.	Tamasha and Dahi Handi	Maharashtra
2.	Garba and Ras Lila	Gujarat
3.	Chhow and Maya Shavari	Orissa
4.	Jhumar and Kathputli	Rajasthan
5.	Lota Dance	Madhya Pradesh
6.	Dussehra Dance	Himachal Pradesh
7.	Gidda and Bhangra	Punjab
8.	Ras Lila,Nautanki,Ahir and Thali	Uttar Pradesh
9.	Spear Dance	Nagaland
10.	Keli Gopal and Bihu	Assam
11.	Kirthand and Kathi	Bengal
12.	Chhow,Maghe and Durga Dance	Bihar

## India - Govt. Industrial Undertakings

No.	Center	Place
01	Bharat Electronics Ltd.	Jalahali,Bangalore (Karnataka)
02	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.	1. Ranipur,Hardwar(U.P.) 2. Ramchandrapuram,Hyderabad (A.P.) 3. Tiruverumbur,Tiruchirapalli (Tamilnadu) 4. Bhopal (M.P.) 5. Jhansi (Ms.P.)
03	Chittaranjan Locomotive works	Chittaranjan (W.Bengal)
04	<a href="#">Diesel</a> Locomotive Works	Varanasi (U.P.)
05	Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd.	New Delhi
06	Garden Reach Workshops Ltd.	Calcutta (W.Bengal)
07	Heavy Engineering Corporation ltd.	Ranchi (Bihar)
08	Heavy Machine Building Plant	Ranchi (Bihar)
09	Heavy Vehicles Factory	Avadi,Madras (Tamilnadu)
10	Hindustan Aeranautics Ltd.	Bangalore (Karnataka)
11	Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd.	Pimpri,Pune (Maharashtra),Rishikesh (U.P.)
12	Hindustan Aircraft Factory	Bangalore (Karnataka)
13	Hindustan Cables Ltd.	Rupnarainpur (W.Bengal)
14	Hindustan Latex Ltd.	Peroorkada,Trivendrum (Kerala)
15	Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd.	Bangalore (Karnataka),Pinjore(Haryana),Kalamassery (Kerala),Hyderabad (A.P.)
16	Hindustan Salts Ltd.	Jaipur (Rajasthan)
17	Hindustan Shipyards Ltd.	Vishakhapatnam (A.P.),Cochin (Kerala)
18	Hindustan Teleprinters Ltd.	Madras (Tamilnadu)
19	Hindustan Zinc Ltd.	Udaipur (Rajasthan)
20	Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	New Delhi
21	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.	Mumbai (Maharashtra)

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| 22 | Indian Rare Earths Ltd.                | Alwaye (Kerala)       |
| 23 | Indian Telephone Industries Ltd.       | Bangalore (Karnataka) |
| 24 | Integral <a href="#">Coach</a> Factory | Madras (Tamilnadu)    |
| 25 | Mazagaon Dock Ltd.                     | Mumbai (Maharashtra)  |
| 26 | Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd.       | Neyveli (Tamilnadu)   |



## **India - Largest & Highest**

No.	Question	Answer
01	Largest Lake	Wulur (Kashmir)
02	Largest Delta	Sunderban Delta
03	Largest Cave Temple	Ellora (Maharashtra)
04	Longest Cantilever Span Bridge	Hawrah Bridge, Calcutta
05	Largest Population State	U.P.
06	Largest State (area)	Madhya Pradesh
07	Largest Corridor	Rameshwaram Temple's Corridor
08	Largest Dome	Gol Gumbaz, Bijapur
09	Largest Mosque	Jumma Masjid, Delhi
10	Highest Peak	Nanda Devi
11	Highest Rainfall	Cherrapunji, Assam
12	Highest Dam	Bhakra Nangal Dam, Punjab
13	Highest Gateway	Buland Darwaza, Fatehpur Sikri
14	Highest Tower	Qutab Minar
15	Highest Waterfalls	Jog Falls (Karnataka)
16	Longest Bridge	Sone, Bihar
17	Highest Award	Bharat Ratna
18	Highest Award for gallantry	Param Vir Chakra
19	Largest Desert	Thar (Rajasthan)
20	Longest Road	Grant Trunk Road
21	Largest Tunnel	Jawahar Tunnel (Bannihal, Kashmir)
22	Longest Dam	Hirakund Dam (Orissa)
23	Largest Railway Platform	Kharagpur Platform
24	Longest Barrage	Sone
25	Tallest Statue	Statue of Gomateswara in Karnataka

26	Biggest Museum	Indian Museum, Calcutta
27	Tallest T.V. Tower	Tower of Delhi (235 metres)
28	Longest Road Bridge	Nehru Setu on river Sone (3061 metres)
29	Longest River	The Ganges
30	Largest District	Ladakh (J&K)

## First And Last Amongst India

No.	First or Last	Name
1.	First Indian Chief Justice of India	Justice H.J.Kania
2.	First Indian Governor of a Province	Lord S.P.Sinha
3.	First President of Indian National Congress	W.C.Banerjee (1885)
4.	First Indian Commander-in-Chief	General K.M. Cariappa
5.	First Indian Naval chief	Vice-Admiral R.D.Katari
6.	First Indian Air Chief	Air Marshal S.Mukherjee
7.	First Indian I.C.S.	Satyendra Nath Tagore
8.	First P.M. of India	Jawaharlal Nehru
9.	First Indian who became President of U.N. General Assembly	Vijaya Laxmi Pandit
10.	First Indian who became a Minister in the Union Cabinet	Rajkumari Amrit Kaur
11.	First <a href="#">Woman</a> President of the Congress	Dr.Annie Besant
12.	First Indian Judge of High Court	Rama Prasad Roy
13.	First Indian and the last Governor General of India	C.Rajagopalachari
14.	First President of India	Dr.Rajendra Prasad
15.	First Indian Nobel Prize Winner	Rabindranath Tagore
16.	First Indian Member of the Executive Council of Viceroy	Sir S.P.Sinha
17.	First Indian Everest Climber	Tenzing Norgay
18.	First Indian Test Cricket Player	K.S.Ranjitsingh Ji
19.	First Indian Woman Governor	Sarojini Naidu
20.	First Woman Chief Minister of a State	Sucheta Kriplani (U.P.)
21.	First Woman Ambassador of India	Vijayalakshmi Pandit (to soviet Union,1947-49)
22.	Last Viceroy of India	Lord L.Mountbatten
23.	First Indian in Space	Sqn.Ldr.Rakesh Sharma
24.	First Indian Woman to Scale Mount Everest	Bachendri Pal

- |     |  |                              |
|-----|--|------------------------------|
| 25. | First Indian Woman Supreme Court Judge | Mrs.Mira Saheb Fathima Beevi |
| 26. | First Field Marshal of India           | S.H.F.J. Manekshaw           |
| 27. | First Woman P.M. of India              | Mrs.Indira Gandhi            |
| 28. | First Muslim President of India        | Dr.Zakir Hussain             |
| 29. | First Sikh President of India          | Giani Zail Singh             |
| 30. | First Talkie (film with dialogue)      | Alam Ara (1931)              |

### **India - Misc. Installations,Centres**

No.	Center	Place
01	Archaeological Survey of India,India Museum	Colcutta (W.Bengal)
02	Artificial Limb Centre	Pune (Maharashtra)
03	National Archives of India	New Delhi
04	National Coal Development Corporation	Ranchi (Bihar)
05	National Gallery of Modern Art	New Delhi
06	National Library	Colcutta (W.Bengal)
07	National Museum	New Delhi
08	Oil and Natural Gas Commission	Dehra Dun (U.P.)
09	Currency Printing Press	Nasik (Maharashtra),Calcutta (W.B.) & Hyderabad (A.P.)

### **Indian Noble Prize Winners**

No.	Year	Name
01	1913	Rabindranath Tagore (Literature)
02	1930	Sir C.V. Raman (Physics)
03	1968	Dr.Hargovind Khorana (Physiology & Medicine)
04	1979	Mother Teresa (Peace)
05	1983	Dr.S.Chandrasekhar (Physics)
06	1998	Dr.Amatya Sen (Economics)

## Indian National Laboratories

No.	Institute	Place
01	Central Drug Research Institute	Lucknow (U.P)
02	Central Fuel Research Institute	Jealgora (Bihar)
03	Central Gas and Ceramic Research Institute	Jadhavpur (West Bengal)
04	Central Mining Research Station	Dhanbad (Bihar)
05	National Environment Engineering Institute	Nagpur (Maharashtra)
06	Indian Institute of Petroleum	Dehra Dun (U.P)
07	National Aeronautical Laboratory	Bangalore (Karnataka)
08	National Botanical Gardens	Lucknow (U.P.)
09	National Chemical Laboratory	Pune (Maharashtra)
10	National Institute of Oceanography	Panaji (Goa)
11	National Metallurgical Laboratory	Jamshedpur (Bihar)
12	Structural Engineering Research Centre	Roorkee (U.P.)
13	National Physical Laboratory	New Delhi

## India - Gallantry Awards

**PARAM VIR CHAKRA :** It is the highest decoration of valour awarded for the most conspicuous bravery or some daring or prominent act of valour or self-sacrifice in the presence of the enemy on land, sea or air.

**MAHA VIR CHAKRA :** It is the second highest decoration. It is awarded for acts of conspicuous gallantry in the presence of the enemy, whether on land, at sea or in the air.

**VIR CHAKRA :** It is the third in the order of awards for acts of gallantry in the face of the enemy on land, sea or air.

**ASHOK CHAKRA :** Awarded for the most conspicuous bravery or some daring act of valour or self-sacrifice on land, at sea or in the air.

**KIRTI CHAKRA :** Awarded for conspicuous gallantry.

**SHAURYA CHAKRA :** Awarded for an act of gallantry.

**PARAM VISHISHT SEWA MEDAL :** Awarded in recognition of distinguished service of the most exceptional order.

**ATI VISHISHT SEWA MEDAL :** Awarded in recognition of distinguished service of an exceptional order.

**VISHISHT SEWA MEDAL :** Awarded in recognition of distinguished service of a high order.

**SENA MEDAL / NAU SENA MEDAL / VAYU SENA MEDAL :** For good work on the field, at sea or in the air.



## Important Books & Authors

No.	Books	Authors
01	My experiments with Truth	Mahatma M.K.Gandhi
02	Far from the Madding Crowd	Thomas Hardy
03	Geetanjali	Rabindra Nath Tagore
04	One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovitch	Alexander Solzhenitsyn
05	The Merchant of venice	William shakespeare
06	The Moon and Six pense	Somerset Maughan
07	Pilgrim's Progress from this world to that which is to come	John Bunyan
08	A Tale of Two Cities	Charles Dickens
09	Utopia	Sir Thomas Moor
10	Origin of species	charles Darwin
11	David Copperfield	Charles Dickens
12	A passage to India	E.M.Forster
13	Gulliver's Travels	Jonathan Swift
14	Discovery of India	Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru
15	The Vicar of Wakefield	Oliver Goldsmith
16	The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire	Edward Gibbon
17	The Lady of the Last Minstrel	Sir Walter Scott
18	Pride and Prejudice	Jane Austen
19	Time Machine	H.G. Wells
20	Arthashastra	Kautilya
21	Le Contract Social	Jean Jacques Rousseau
22	Avigyan Sakuntalam	Kalidas
23	Anand Math	Bankimchandra Chattopadhyay
24	Mein Kampf	Adolf Hitler
25	Ain-i-Akbari	Abul Fazal

26	Akbar-Nama	Abul Fazal
27	Shakuntala	Kalidas
28	War and peace	Leo Tolstoy
29	A Dangerous place	D.P. Moynihan
30	Raghuvamsa	Kalidas
31	Adventures of Sherlock Holmes	Arthur Conan Doyle
32	Adventures of Tom Sawyer	Mark Twain
33	Agni Veena	Kazi Nasrul Islam
34	Alice in Wonderland	Lewis Carrol
35	Ancient Mariner	Coleridge
36	Animal Farm	George Orwell
37	Anna Karenina	Tolstoy
38	Antony and Cleopatra	Shakespeare
39	Arms and the Man	G.B.Shaw
40	Around the World in eighty days	Jules Verne
41	Baburnama	Babur
42	Ben Hur	Lewis Wallace
43	Bhagwat Gita	Ved Vyas
44	Bisarjan	R.N.Tagore
45	Canterbury Tales	Chaucer
46	Chitra	R.N.Tagore
47	Count of Monte Cristo	Alexander Dumas
48	Crime and Punishment	Dostoevsky
49	Das Kapital	Karl Marx
50	Divine Comedy	Dante
51	Dr.Jekyll and Mr.Hyde	Stevenson
52	Don Quixote	Cervantes
53	Dr.Zhivago	Boris Pasternak

54	For whom the Bell Tolls	Ernest Hemingway
55	Forsyte Saga	John Galsworthy
56	Freedom at Midnight	Dominique Lapierre
57	Gathering Storm	Winston Churchill
58	Geet Govind	Jaya Dev
59	Gora	R.N. Tagore
60	Hamlet	Shakespeare
61	Harsha Charit	Bana Bhatt
62	Hunchback of Notre Dame	Victor Hugo
63	Hungry Stones	R.N.Tagore
64	Illiad	Homer
65	Invisible Man	H.G.Wells
66	Ivanhoe	Walter Scott
67	Jungle Book	Rudyard Kipling
68	Kadambari	Bana Bhatt
69	Kidnapped	R.L.Stevenson
70	King Lear	Shakespeare
71	Kumar Sambhav	Kalidas
72	Last Days of Pompeii	Bulwar Lytton
73	Les Miserable	Victor Hugo
74	Life Divine	Shri Aurobindo
75	Mahabharata	Vyas
76	Man and Superman	G.B.Shaw
77	Meghdut	Kalidas
78	Mother	Maxim Gorky
79	Odyssey	Homer
80	Oliver Twist	Charles Dickens
81	Othello	Shakespeare

82	Panchatantra	Vishnu Sharma
83	Paradise lost	John Milton
84	Pickwick Papers	Charles Dickens
85	Plague	Albert Camus
86	The Post Office	R.N.Tagore
87	Principia	Issac Newton
88	Ramayana	Valmiki
89	Robinson Crusoe	Daniel Defoe
90	Shah Nama	Firdausi
91	Shape of things to come	H.G.Wells
92	Three Musketeers	Alexander Dumas
93	The Tempest	Shakespeare
94	Tom Sawyer	Mark Twain
95	Treasure Island	R.L.Stevenson
96	Ulysses	James Joyce
97	Uncle Tom's Cabin	Mrs.Harriet Stowe
98	Waste Land	T.S.Eliot
99	Nineteen Eighty-four	George Orwell
100	Sunny Days	Sunil Gavaskar
101	Faust	Goethe
102	Arabian Nights	Sir Richard <a href="#">Burton</a>
103	The City of Joy	Dominique Lapierre
104	The One Day Wonders	Sunil Gavaskar
105	Silas Marner	George Eliot
106	Bachelor of Arts	R.K.Narayan
107	China Passage	John Kenneth Galbraith
108	A Suitable Boy	Vikram Seth
109	A Voice For Freedom	Nayantara Saigal

110	A Week with Gandhi	Louis Fisher
111	A Woman's Life	Guy de Maupassaut
112	Age of Reason	Jean Paul Sartre
113	Asian Drama	Gunnar Myrdal
114	The Bubble	Mulk Raj Anand
115	Ben Hur	Lewis Wallace
116	The Castle	Franz Kafka
117	Chandalika	Rabindra Nath Tagore
118	The Class	Erich Byron
119	The Clown	Heinrich Boll
120	Comedy of Errors	William Shakespeare
121	Communist Manifesto	Karl Marx
122	Confessions	Jean Jacques Rousseau
123	The Court Dancer	Rabindra Nath Tagore
124	Death of a City	Amrita Pritam
125	Decline and Fall of the Roman	Edward Gibbon Empire
126	Essays of Gita	Sir Aurobindo Ghosh
127	French Revolution	Thomas Carlyle
128	Ganadevata	Tara Shankar Bandopadhyaya
129	Glimpses of World History	Jawaharlal Nehru
130	The Godfather	Mario Puzo
131	Grammar of Politics	Harold T.Laski
132	Guide	R.K.Narayan
133	Hindu View of Life	Dr.S.Radha Krishnan
134	Hungry Stones	Rabindra Nath Tagore
135	India Divided	Dr.Rajendra Prasad
136	Jurassic Park	Michael Crichton
137	Kidnapped	Robert Louis Stevenson

138	Richard Nixon	Leaders
139	Mahatma Gandhi	Romain Rolland
140	The Masters	C.P.Shaw
141	My Truth	Indira Gandhi
142	Old Man and the Sea	Ernest Hemingway
143	The Other Side of Midnight	Sindy Sheldon
144	Pride and Prejudice	Jane Austen
145	Shape of Things to Come	H.G.Wells
146	Sons and Lovers	D.H.Lawrence
147	Treasure Island	R.L.Stevenson
148	Valley of Dolls	Jacqueline Susann
149	Wealth of Nations	Adam Smith

## Golden Words

1. Positive Pictures come out from negatives developed in the darkroom. So if you find yourself lonely in the dark, understand that - Life is working on a beautiful picture for you.
2. Life is a Chemistry, just dilute your sorrows, evaporate your worries, filter your mistakes, boil your ego and you will get the Crystals of love. Its True.....
3. All the right things are not possible always & All the possible things are not right always. Be true to both your mind & heart, you'll never go wrong.
4. Memories sometimes behave in a crazy way....They leave you alone when you are in a crowd.....and when you you are alone they stand along with you like a crowd....
5. Impossible doesn't mean that it is not possible. It actually means that nobody has done it so far and you are born to break the limits....
6. 2 things can never get defined in whole life - 1 is LOVE coz you never know how deeply sum one loves you and. 2nd is FRIEND coz you never know how deeply they care for you.
7. The heart suffers a lot not because of "VIOLENCE" of bad people but because of "SILENCE" of dear once.
8. Working towards success will make you a Master But Working towards Satisfaction Makes you a Legend. Strive for excellence Be a Legend.
9. Pleasure in the job puts perfection in the work.
10. If you have knowledge, let others light their candles in it.
11. Good is not good when Better is available and Best is Possible.
12. "Born with Personality is an accident but dying as a Personality is an achievement."
13. There is always another chance in life for everything but there is no chance for another life. So enjoy every moment of your life.
14. The key to HAPPINESS is not that you Never get ANGRY, UPSET, FRUSTRATED, IRRITATED or DEPRESSED. It is how FAST you get out of all that! Be happy always.
15. We are like Teabags whose true strength comes out when we are put in hot water. So when problems upset you, just think, you must be God's favourite cup of tea.
16. Changes are the law of life, and challenges are the aim of of the life. We have to challenge the changes not change the challenges. So face the challenges.
17. Don't say u don't have enough time. You have exactly the same number of hours per day that were given to Einstein & Ambanis & TATA. Just they do differently.
18. Life is just like river. We are moving without end...Nothing stays with us. What remains with us is the memories of some [special](#) people who touched us as wave.
19. A bird sitting on a branch doesn't get frightened by the shaking branch coz the bird trusts not the branch but its own wings....Trust yourself always.

20. Trusting in God won't make the mountain smaller, but will make climbing real easy. Don't pray to God for a lighter load but ask him for a stronger back....
21. "If friendship is your weakest point then you are the strongest person in the world."
22. Never explain yourself to anyone because, the person who likes you doesn't need it & the person who dislikes you won't believe it.
23. Relation is when someone hurts u, you don't hurt back. when someone shouts at u, you don't shout back..but when someone needs you, you always COME BACK.
24. Everything is possible. Even the word 'Impossible' says "I M POSSIBLE".
25. "Good Decision comes from Experience. But, Experience comes from Bad Decision."
26. Anger comes alone But takes away all the good qualities out of us. Silence too comes alone but Brings all Good Qualities into us.